



**REGION 6**

DALLAS, TX 75270

June 27, 2025

**TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL**

Ms. Cari-Michel La Caille, Director  
Office of Water (MC-158)  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)  
Post Office Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711-3087  
[cari-michel.lacaille@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:cari-michel.lacaille@tceq.texas.gov)

Re: Partial Approval of 2010 and 2014 *Texas Surface Water Quality Standards*

Dear Ms. La Caille:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed its review of several new and revised provisions in the *Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (TSWQS).<sup>1</sup> This is the fifth action concerning our review of the 2010 standards, and the eighth action in our review of the 2014 standards. I am pleased to inform you that the EPA is approving the new and revised criteria chloride, sulfate, and total dissolved solids (TDS) adopted in Appendix A - Site-specific Uses and Criteria for Classified Segments of the 2010 and 2014 revisions of the TSWQS, as documented in the following table, pursuant to Section 303(c) of the Clean Water Act and the implementing regulation at Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 131.

Segment	Water Body	Parameter	2000 TSWQS	2010 TSWQS	2014 TSWQS
0307	Jim L. Chapman Lake	chloride	-	50	-
		sulfate	-	50	-
		TDS	-	225	-
0410	Black Cypress Bayou (Creek)	chloride	-	50	-
		sulfate	-	50	-
		TDS	-	200	-
0803	Lake Livingston	sulfate	50	60	-
2103	Lake Corpus Christi	TDS	-	500	750

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<sup>1</sup> The 2010 TSWQS were adopted by the TCEQ on June 20, 2010, and received by the EPA for review on August 9, 2010. The 2014 TSWQS were adopted by the TCEQ on February 12, 2014, and received by the EPA for review on April 29, 2014.

Segment	Water Body	Parameter	2000 TSWQS	2010 TSWQS	2014 TSWQS
2106 <sup>2</sup>	Lower Frio River	chloride	250	285	-
		sulfate	250	145	-
		TDS	500	735	-
2106 <sup>2</sup>	Nueces River	chloride	250	350	-
		sulfate	250	165	-
		TDS	500	950	-
2107	Lower Atascosa River	chloride	-	600	400
		sulfate	-	500	300
		TDS	-	1500	1650
2116	Choke Canyon Reservoir	TDS	500	720	-
2118	Upper Atascosa River	chloride	-	600	350
		sulfate	-	500	700
		TDS	-	1500	1550

The EPA's approval of new and revised water quality standards is subject to the results of consultation under section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act. Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act requires that all federal agencies engage in consultation to ensure their actions are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any threatened or endangered species or result in adverse modification of designated critical habitat. The EPA has determined that approval of the new and revised water quality criteria in this action will have no effect on federally listed threatened and endangered species or on critical habitat.

The EPA has previously stated that it is taking no action on the definition of "Surface water in the state" in §307.3(a)(71) of the TSWQS, regarding the reference to §26.001 of the Texas Water Code for the area 10.36 miles offshore into the Gulf of America. Under the Clean Water Act, the state of Texas does not have jurisdiction to establish water quality standards more than three nautical miles from the coast. Therefore, the EPA's approval action on the items in the enclosure recognizes the state's authority under the Clean Water Act to include waters extending offshore three nautical miles in the Gulf of America but does not extend past that point. In addition, the EPA's approval action also does not include the application of the TSWQS to the portions of the Red River and Lake Texoma that are located within the state of Oklahoma. The EPA is also taking no action on the Texas WQS for those waters or portions of waters located in Indian country.

I would like to commend TCEQ for its commitment in completing the task of reviewing and revising the state's water quality standards. The EPA will take subsequent action on the remaining new and revised provisions in the 2010 TSWQS and the 2014 TSWQS.

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<sup>2</sup> The revised chloride, sulfate, and TDS criteria for the Lower Frio River apply to the reach from the Choke Canyon dam downstream to the confluence with Nueces River (approximately 10 miles). The revised chloride, sulfate, and TDS criteria for the Nueces River apply to the reach from the confluence with the Lower Frio River to the downstream segment boundary (approximately 17 miles).

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If you have any questions, please contact me at (214) 665-6647, or have your staff contact Diane Evans at (214) 665-6677.

Sincerely,

Acting for Troy C. Hill, P.E  
Director  
Water Division

cc: Kelly Mills  
Deputy Director, TCEQ - Water Quality Planning Division (MC-203)  
[kelly.mills@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:kelly.mills@tceq.texas.gov)