Response to Public Comment Implementation Plan for TMDL for Atrazine in Aquilla Reservoir

December 28, 2001

Tracking Number	Date Recd.	Affiliation of Commentor	Summary of Request or Comment	Summary of TNRCC Action or Explanation
001	10/29/01 (letter)	Texas Department of Agriculture	(a) TDA is identified in the plan as a contributor to its preparation. Our participation has been primarily in support of the plan, with minimal input into the document text.	(a) Under the section titled <i>Introduction</i> , the reference to contribution from TDA has been changed to state that an informal, multi-agency group called the Surface Water Protection Committee, of which TDA is a member, contributed to the development of the implementation plan.
			(b) The document seems vague in certain areas. The TMDL and the TMDL implementation plan for Lake Aquilla are two separate documents and, therefore, each stands alone. The implementation plan should include an expanded TMDL summary.	(b) The 14-page IP contains a one-page summary of the TMDL, and rather than expand that summary, readers are encouraged to consult the TMDL document. No change will be made to the IP as a result of this comment.
			(c) There is insufficient discussion of the data and method for determining the loading to the lake.	(c) Data and methods for loading determinations are part of the TMDL, not the Implementation Plan. After Commission adoption of the TMDL, EPA Region 6, as part of their review and approval process, has requested that additional analyses be performed of the atrazine loadings to the reservoir. The TNRCC has performed additional analyses. EPA's approval of these analyses is still pending at this time. Upon approval by EPA, these analyses will be made available to the TDA and to others upon request. No change will be made to the IP as a result of this comment.
			(d) References are cited with little discussion. Clarity on the direction of the plan could have been enhanced by a review of the issues identified by the stakeholders, including the contribution of urban atrazine sources to the lake.	(d) Under the section titled <i>Control Actions and Management</i> <i>Measures</i> additional information has been added that addresses options available to producers in the area, i.elist of available resources, responsible agencies and their contact information; brief description of BMPs implemented; CEU training; educational and informational brochures and guidance documents available. In the paragraph discussing TAES monitoring, an explanation of results will be added along with the justification for not considering an urban atrazine contribution in this watershed.

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			(e) The plan prematurely refers to a proposal submitted by TDA to the Environmental Protection Agency for discretionary funds to test the effectiveness of the filter strips and runoff retention ponds that have been planted/built in the Aquilla watershed. TDA does not yet know the status of the project and therefore, cannot predict its implementation.	(e) Information will be added to clarify that this project is subject to available funding.