

January 4, 2024

Jonathan Letz  
Chairman, Region J  
Plateau Regional Water Planning Group  
700 Main Street  
Kerrville, TX 78028

Dear Chairman Letz:

I have reviewed your request dated October 27, 2023, for approval of alternative water supply assumptions to be used in determining future surface water availability. This letter confirms that the TWDB approves the following assumptions that require a variance:

- Include return flows for evaluation of strategy supplies for the Rio Grande, Nueces, Colorado, San Antonio, and Guadalupe River Basins. Evaluations of reuse strategies will use the return flows from TCEQ WAM Run 8.

For the purpose of evaluating potentially feasible water management strategies, the TCEQ WAM Run 3 is to be used, with the exception approved above. While the use of these modified conditions may be reasonable for planning purposes, WAM RUN3 would be utilized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for analyzing permit applications. It is acceptable to use the modified conditions for WMS supply evaluations only if the yield produced is more conservative (less) for surface water appropriations than WAM RUN3.

While the TWDB authorizes this modification to evaluate future water supplies for development of the 2026 Region J RWP, it is the responsibility of the RWPG to ensure that the resulting estimates of water availability are reasonable for drought planning purposes and will reflect conditions expected in the event of actual drought conditions; and in all other regards will be evaluated in accordance with the most recent version of regional water planning contract Exhibit C, *General Guidelines for Development of the 2026 Regional Water Plans*.

Please do not hesitate to contact Lann Bookout of our Regional Water Planning staff at 512-926-9439 or [lann.bookout@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:lann.bookout@twdb.texas.gov) if you have any questions.

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Chairman, Jonathan Letz

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Sincerely,

Matt Nelson

Deputy Executive Administrator

c: Tara Bushnoe, UGRA  
Jennifer Jackson, WSP  
Tony Smith, P.E., Carollo  
Lann Bookout, Water Supply Planning  
Sarah Lee, Water Supply Planning  
Nelun Fernando, Ph.D., Surface Water