

**RESOLUTION OF THE GREATER EDWARDS AQUIFER ALLIANCE ON
GROUNDWATER EXPORTATION FROM THE NUECES BASIN**

WHEREAS, there are direct and important interconnections between surface waters and groundwaters in the Nueces basin, and

WHEREAS, as the population of South Texas expands and new surface water supplies become increasingly limited and expensive to develop, there is increasing interest in developing and marketing ground water, and

WHEREAS, exportation of large amounts of groundwater from aquifers within the Nueces basin could potentially decrease or eliminate spring flows, reduce surface flows with possible adverse effects on downstream surface water rights and water supply facilities, and adversely affect groundwater supplies needed or current and future domestic, municipal and agricultural uses, and

WHEREAS, scientific knowledge of groundwater supplies in the Nueces River Basin, and particularly the upper Nueces Basin which is influenced by the highly fractured Edwards and Trinity-Edwards aquifers, is uncertain and at times conflicting and new studies are continuing to develop; and

WHEREAS, until the consequences of exporting large quantities of groundwater from aquifers in the Nueces basin are better understood, it is prudent to oppose such exportations and any actions designed to facilitate such exportations, and

WHEREAS, the Nueces River Authority is noted for working with multi-stakeholders to reach objectives that benefit all to the maximum extent possible while causing no serious harm to any.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE NUECES RIVER AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS THAT:**

1. It is the policy of the Nueces River Authority to discourage development of groundwater resources within or outside of the Nueces River basin when such development could reasonably be expected to reduce the availability of surface water or groundwater resources within the basin that are needed:

a. for current and projected domestic, agricultural, municipal, industrial, recreational and other beneficial uses within the Nueces River Authority's service area;

b. to preserve the yield of the Choke Canyon/Lake Corpus Christi Reservoir System; and/or

c. to protect environmental flows within the Nueces River Authority's service area including springs, instream flows, and freshwater inflows to the bays and estuaries

2. The Nueces River Authority encourages more studies to better understand groundwater resources in the Nueces Basin, the interconnection of groundwater and surface water resources,

and the economic, social, and environmental consequences of exporting large quantities of groundwater from the Nueces basin.

3. In view of all of the above, the Nueces River Authority specifically opposes the exportation of groundwater from Kinney and Uvalde counties as is being contemplated by several entities, the construction of pipelines to facilitate such exportations, and any amendments of the Edwards Aquifer Authority statute that would facilitate such exportations until each time as the consequences of such actions on Nueces Basin water supplies and surface water permit holders are better understood.

4. The Nueces River Authority encourages dialog and cooperation among all parties involved in or potentially affected by groundwater exportations from the Nueces Basin to help achieve water supply programs that maximize benefits to all and minimize harm done.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13TH DAY OF AUGUST 2010.

ATTEST

Secretary-Treasurer

President