July 8, 2019

Dear Regional Water Planning Group Chairs:

House Bill (HB) 807, as passed by the 86th Texas Legislature, directs the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to appoint an Interregional Planning Council (Council). In accordance with HB 807, the purposes of the Council are to

- improve coordination among the Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPG), and between the RWPGs and the TWDB in meeting goals of the state water planning process;
- facilitate dialogue regarding regional water management strategies; and
- share operational best practices of the regional water planning process.

Additionally, HB 807 requires the Council to

- hold at least one public meeting; and
- prepare a report to the TWDB Board on the Council’s work.

To support the Council’s directive to facilitate dialogue regarding regional water management strategies, TWDB is initiating the Council establishment process so that information from the initially prepared plans may be discussed in early spring 2020. Although RWPGs may nominate more than one member to serve on the Council, the Council as appointed by the TWDB Board will consist of one member from each RWPG. Council membership will be appointed each five-year cycle prior to the adoption of a new state water plan and appointments will expire once a new state water plan is adopted. The Board will take into consideration nominations from each RWPG in appointing the Council, and Council appointments are anticipated to occur by the end of 2019.

To meet the goal of appointing the Council by the end of this year, we request that each RWPG take appropriate action at their next RWPG meeting to nominate one or more members. Please provide the nomination information, including the interest category the individual represents, committee membership (if applicable), a brief background statement including time served on the RWPG, contact information (email, phone number, and mailing address), and any other supporting information deemed relevant by the RWPG to Sarah Backhouse at Sarah.Backhouse@twdb.texas.gov.

The TWDB offers to facilitate the required public meeting and assist in development of the report, as requested by the Council. The TWDB also offers to assist with any supporting information the Council may deem necessary. Information for coordination of meeting time

Our Mission
To provide leadership, information, education, and support for planning, financial assistance, and outreach for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas

Board Members
Peter M. Lake, Chairman | Kathleen Jackson, Board Member | Brooke T. Paup, Board Member

Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator
and logistics as well as support services or materials will be distributed in Council member appointment notification letters later this year. If your RWPG has any opinions on meeting timelines or goals that they would like to share with TWDB, you may include such information in your nomination packet.

Thank you for your participation in the regional water planning process and consideration of this request. Please contact Sarah Backhouse at Sarah.Backhouse@twdb.texas.gov or at (512) 936-2387 with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Jeff Walker
Executive Administrator

cc: Designated Political Subdivisions for RWPGs