

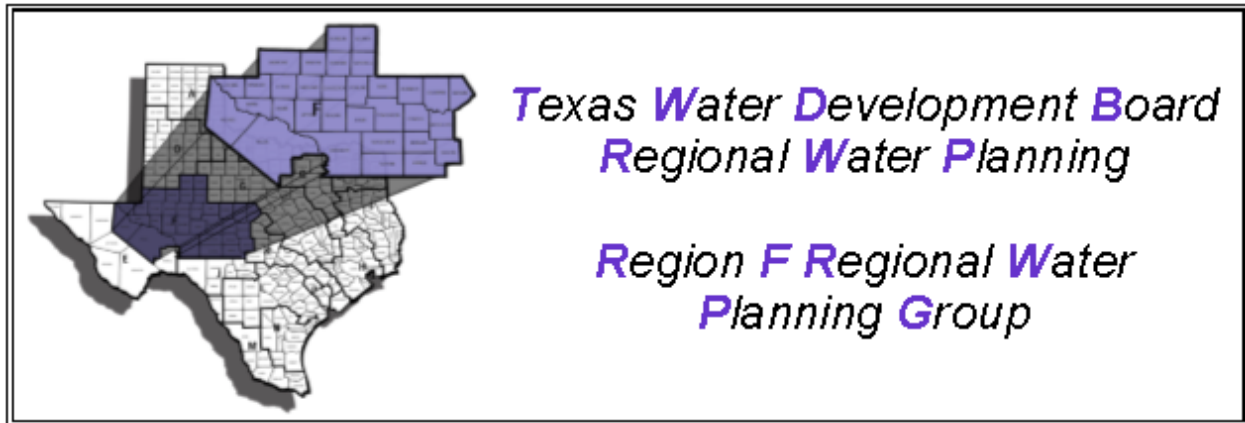
Agenda Item 6c. Planning Process: Consider Requesting an Extension of Time for Region F to Submit the Technical Memorandum to the TWDB

This agenda item is to consider and approve a request to extend the submittal date for the Technical Memorandum from September 10, 2018 to November 9, 2018. The Technical Memorandum is a contractual deliverable that summarizes the population and demand projections, available water supplies, and the projected water needs for water users in Region F. Data necessary to complete the Technical Memorandum includes the Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) values that are developed through the Joint Planning process. The TWDB has estimated that the MAG values for GMAs 3 and 7 will not be available until mid-summer. This data is critical in developing the supplies to users (WUGs and WWPs), which is required to assess water needs.

The extension is necessary to provide sufficient time to receive the most recent MAG values and complete the technical process required to develop the Technical Memorandum.

Attachments:

1. Draft letter to TWDB requesting an extension for the Technical Memorandum.



March 15, 2017

Jeff Walker
Executive Administrator
Texas Water Development Board
1700 North Congress
Austin, Texas 78711-3231

Re: Technical Memorandum Deadline Extension for Region F

Dear Mr. Walker:

Region F respectfully requests a 60-day extension for the submittal of the Technical Memorandum. This extension is necessary to allow the TWDB to develop Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) values for aquifers in Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs) 7 and 3. Collectively, these GMAs are responsible for adopting Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for 11 aquifers within 27 counties in Region F.

Region F is statutorily required to use the MAGs developed for DFCs that were adopted by January 5, 2017. It is our understanding that GMA 7 adopted its DFCs for the Dockum, Ellenburger-San Saba, Hickory, Ogallala, and Rustler aquifers on September 22, 2016 and adopted DFCs for the Capitan Reef, Edwards-Trinity Plateau, and Pecos Valley aquifers on March 23, 2017. GMA 7 declared the Lipan, Igneous, and Marble Falls aquifers as non-relevant. GMA 3 adopted its DFCs on October 20, 2016, but then re-adopted DFCs for the Edwards-Trinity Plateau and Pecos Valley aquifers on December 13, 2017, because the initial analysis by the GMA used an older version of the groundwater model grid designation file. This re-adoption of DFCs is to correct an error and does not reflect a change to the GMA's original intent for managing groundwater.

Region F wants to honor the groundwater management intentions of the Joint Planning process and plans on using the MAG values from the most recently adopted DFCs. The current estimate for completion of the MAG process is mid-summer 2018. This means that the amount of groundwater available for 27 counties of the 32-county Region F will not be available to the consultants or RWPG until one to two months before the Technical Memorandum is to be submitted to the TWDB on September 10, 2018. This does not provide sufficient time to complete the technical evaluations and documentation required for the Technical Memorandum.

To provide sufficient time to complete this critical task in the regional planning process, our consultants need a minimum of four months to conduct the evaluations, enter data into the TWDB database (DB22), and receive input and approval from the Region F RWPG. Therefore, the MAGs will need to be completed and imported into DB22 by TWDB by July 10, 2018, or the Region will need to request

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another extension. If the MAGs become available sooner than mid-summer, Region F will try to submit the Technical Memorandum prior to the extended date (November 9, 2018).

If you have any questions on our request, please call me at (432) 267-6341.

Sincerely,

John Grant
Region F Chairman

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