

AUG 17 2010

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT CREATION
RECOMMENDATION FOR THE HILL COUNTRY PRIORITY GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT AREA****SOAH DOCKET NO. 582-10-5643
TCEQ DOCKET NO. 2010-1040-MIS**

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will have a preliminary hearing on the Executive Director's report and recommendation on groundwater conservation district (GCD) creation in the Hill Country Priority Groundwater Management Area (PGMA). The Executive Director has prepared a report petitioning the Commission for action to recommend that portions of the Hill Country PGMA with boundaries that include the western Comal County territory, the southwestern Travis County territory, and the portion of the Hill Country PGMA in Hays County that is presently the Hays Trinity GCD be combined into a single GCD in accordance with Chapter 35 of the Texas Water Code and Title 30, *Texas Administrative Code*, Section 293.19. The Commission will also consider other district creation options and alternative recommendations evaluated in the Executive Director's report.

The State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) will conduct a preliminary hearing to take jurisdiction, name parties, and consider pretrial matters on:

**10:00 a.m. – October 28, 2010
Hays County Courthouse
3rd Floor County Courtroom
111 East San Antonio Street
San Marcos, Texas 78666**

The evidentiary hearing on this matter will be held at a later date. You may request party status at the preliminary hearing by showing how you are an affected person. If granted party status, you may present evidence and testimony at the evidentiary hearing. Under the Texas Water Code, Section 35.008(e), the evidentiary hearing must be concluded not later than the 75th day after the date that notice of the hearing is published.

The Executive Director concludes and recommends that the most feasible and practicable solution would be for the Commission to issue an order creating a GCD in the Hill Country PGMA with boundaries that include the western Comal County territory, the southwestern Travis County territory, and the portion of the Hill Country PGMA in Hays County that is presently the Hays Trinity GCD. This recommended action provides for the most effective boundaries for the management of the groundwater resources under the authorities provided in the Texas Water Code, Chapter 36, and adequate funding to finance required or authorized groundwater management planning, regulatory, and district operation functions under Texas Water Code, Chapter 36. The commissioners' courts of Comal, Hays, and Travis counties have filed

resolutions supporting the creation of a new multi-county GCD for the Trinity aquifer in the Hill Country PGMA.

The report is available for public inspection during regular business hours (8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday) at the following locations:

- Commission's Office of the Chief Clerk, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg. F, Rm. 1104, Austin;
- Commission's Regional Offices;
 - Region 11 — Austin Office, 2800 S. IH35, Ste. 100, Austin
 - Region 13 — San Antonio Office, 14250 Judson Rd., San Antonio
- County Clerk Office locations;
 - 5501 Airport Blvd., Austin
 - 150 N. Seguin, Suite 101, New Braunfels
 - 137 N. Guadalupe St., San Marcos.
- Public Libraries:
 - New Braunfels Public Library, 700 Common St., New Braunfels
 - San Marcos Public Library, 625 E. Hopkins St., San Marcos
 - Will Hampton Branch at Oak Hill, 5125 Convict Hill Road, Austin
 - Twin Oaks Branch Library, 2301 S. Congress Ave., # 7, Austin
- Groundwater Conservation Districts:
 - Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer CD, 1124-A Regal Row, Austin
 - Blanco-Pedernales GCD, 601 W. Main, Johnson City
 - Cow Creek GCD, 216 Market Ave., Suite 105, Boerne
 - Central Texas GCD, 225 S. Pierce, Burnet
 - Edwards Aquifer Authority, 1615 N. Saint Mary's St., San Antonio
 - Hays Trinity GCD, Center Lake Business Park, 14101 Hwy 290 W., Bldg. 100, Suite 212, Austin
 - Trinity-Glen Rose GCD, 7550 West IH-10, Suite 800, San Antonio

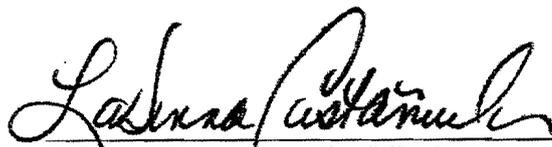
The Executive Director's report is also available online at http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water_supply/groundwater/pgma.html. A map showing the boundaries of the area being considered for PGMA designation may be examined at the above locations

Copies of the report may be obtained by contacting Mr. Leon Byrd at (512) 239-0540, by email at cbyrd@tceq.state.tx.us, or in writing to Mr. Leon Byrd, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Groundwater Planning and Assessment, MC 147, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087.

Any questions or comments may be addressed to Mr. Ross Henderson, Staff Attorney, Environmental Law Division, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, (512) 239-6257.

Issued this the 16th day of August, 2010.

(Seal)



LaDonna Castañuela, Chief Clerk
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality