

Bryan W. Shaw, Ph.D., P.E., *Chairman*  
Toby Baker, *Commissioner*  
Zak Covar, *Commissioner*  
Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution*

April 15, 2015

The Honorable Joe Straus  
Texas House of Representatives  
Capitol Station  
PO Box 2910  
Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Re: Responsibility of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Pursuant to Article XVI, Section 59(d), Texas Constitution

House Bill (HB) 4168, as Filed by Representative Dennis Bonnen - Relating to the composition of the board of directors and the powers of the Gulf Coast Water Authority

Dear Speaker Straus:

The following comments are provided pursuant to the Constitutional requirements referenced above. Under those requirements, the TCEQ must submit, to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the House of Representatives, the TCEQ's recommendations on specific legislation affecting water districts. We recommend that these comments be considered in the evaluation of the proposed legislation.

The bill amends previous legislation related to the Gulf Coast Water Authority (the "Authority") as detailed below.

Specifies that in connection with the acquisition of water, or the treatment, storage, or transportation of water, the Authority may enter into agreements for the purchase or sale of electric power.

Removes provisions related to a portion of the Authority's board of directors being appointed by the Commissioners Court of Galveston County. Amends the make-up of the Authority's board of directors by specifying that the directors of the Authority shall be appointed as follows: (1) four directors appointed by the Galveston County Commissioners Court, two of whom represent municipal interests, and two of whom represent industrial interests; (2) two directors appointed by the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court, one of whom represents municipal interests, and one of whom represents the county at large; and (3) three directors appointed by the Brazoria County Commissioners Court, one of whom represents agricultural interests, one of whom represents municipal interests, and one of whom represents industrial interests.

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The terms of the members of the board of directors of the Authority serving on the effective date of the bill expire September 1, 2015. Not later than September 1, 2015, the entities shall make the appointments as indicated in the paragraph above.

The members of the board appointed pursuant to the bill shall draw lots to determine which four board members shall serve a one-year term and which five members shall serve a two-year term.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Brookins".

Linda Brookins, Director  
Water Supply Division  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

cc: Honorable Jim Keffer, Chairman, House Committee on Natural Resources  
Representative Dennis Bonnen, Texas House of Representatives

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE OF TEXAS

HB 4168  
Bill Number

TO: The Honorable Governor of Texas  
SUBJECT: A Bill Relating to a Conservation and Reclamation District

This is to transmit to you and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality copies of a bill relating to a conservation and reclamation district and copies of the notice of intention to introduce the bill. One copy is for your files and one for you to forward to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, under Section 59(d), Article XVI, Constitution of the State of Texas.

4/6/2015

Date transmitted to  
Governor's Office

  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

TO: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
SUBJECT: A Bill Relating to a Conservation and Reclamation District

This is to forward to you a copy of a bill relating to conservation and reclamation district and a copy of the notice of intention to introduce the bill.

April 6, 2015

Date transmitted to  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

  
Governor

TO: The Honorable Speaker of the House  
The Honorable President of the Senate  
The Honorable Governor of Texas  
SUBJECT: A Bill Relating to a Conservation and Reclamation District

Attached are recommendations of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in compliance with Section 59(d), Article XVI, Constitution of the State of Texas.

  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

