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P.O. Box 768
Bay, City TX 77404
waterdownstream.org

Sept. 18, 2019

Re: LCRBC Comments on Implementation of Flood Legislation (86th Texas Legislative Session)

Dear Executive Administrator and Staff:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your "Issues for Stakeholder Consideration" related to implementation of flood legislation from the 86th Legislative Session – and we respectfully ask that you consider our input, despite missing the Aug. 30 deadline.

The Lower Colorado River Basin Coalition welcomes the Texas Water Development Board's efforts to implement legislation, as our basin has been hit by major floods for three of the last four years. Some or all of these events may have been 100-year floods.

The Coalition would like to make three recommendations:

1. Flood Planning Group Boundaries

We recommend that the San Bernard River Basin be linked into the Lower Colorado River Basin, as opposed to the Brazos River Basin, as the Colorado and San Bernard Rivers are intimately connected during extreme flood events. This was clearly illustrated during Hurricane Harvey, when the Colorado River overtopped its banks and flowed overland to the San Bernard River (all in Wharton Co.), ultimately flooding major segments of the County and the lower San Bernard River basin in Brazoria County.

2. Planning Group Coordination

We recommend that coordination between Flood Planning Groups be clearly required in the rules for the planning process. For example, in Issue 6: Flood Planning Guidance Principles, #31, we would like to insert the following language **shown in red**:

31) shall be based on coordination of flood risk mitigation planning, strategies, and projects with **other Flood Planning Groups as well as** local, regional, state, and federal agencies projects and goals.

3. Planning Group Coordination

We strongly support the Board's existing language in Attachment 5, 391.11 Designation of Flood Planning Regions, Membership:

Member liaisons designated by each Flood Planning Group representing portions of split major river basins to coordinate between the upstream and downstream Flood Planning Regions within that same river basin.

Please find below the Officers and members of the Executive Committee who have approved the letter and agreed to add their signature. Thank you again and please contact me at 210.213.2805 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Kirby Brown, Chair
Lower Colorado River Basin Coalition

Judge Paul Pape, Bastrop County Judge, Vice Chair
Robert Howard, Secretary
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