



Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District

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OFFICE MEMO

During the Legislative Committee meeting of April 26, I was instructed to travel to the capital as a resource to legislators on behalf of the District, and while there to request a meeting with Senator Perry to discuss concerns of two bills. First, HB1066, which would sync up transport permits with operating permits, would be heard Monday, April 29 the committee he chairs. Second, SB1010, which deals with similar rules of GCDs, had been passed out of the Senate and assigned to House Natural Resources. We had previously expressed our position on HB1066 and its companion, SB800 by Perry, in letters sent to legislators of the District, authors of the bills and Chairmen of the appropriate committees. We had also closely monitored the progress of SB1010.

Our concerns with SB1010 remain the possibility that we might be forced to manage groundwater in a manner less restrictive with respect to production limits. I was instructed to express our concerns, and offer to work with the Chairman's staff. I was to join another GCD general manager in Chairman Perry's office Monday morning to meet with him on these issues. Chairman Perry was called away just before we were to meet, but instructed his chief of staff to meet with us and discuss our concerns.

I did reinforce to Chairman Perry's staff the District's concerns expressed in our letter concerning HB1066. I then outlined the issues from language in SB1010 which might come about should we not be able to maintain our maximum allowable production limit of 2 acre feet per acre per year, and then also be able to curtail based on the same strategies, should it be necessary to maintain aquifer water levels and achieve DFCs. As similar concerns had been voiced by other GCDs, Chairman Perry's staff agreed to send another draft of SB1010 later this week for all stakeholders to consider.

Following this meeting, I proceeded to meet with Representative Terry Wilson's chief of Staff concerning his earlier filed HB2998, which deals with regulation of groundwater and

surface water. He was encouraged to gain understanding of our management of resources and efforts to improve the Groundwater Availability Model. He also agreed to visit our offices during the interim to discuss the District's management of resources. I also visited briefly with staffs of Rep. Ben Leman and Senator Schwertner on our concerns of these pieces of legislation. They were familiar with our letters on HB1066 and GCD concerns on SB1010.

Finally, I set down with Senator Kolkhorst's staff concerning HB1066, which would come before the Senate Committee on Water and Rural Affairs, of which she is a member, later that evening. I was assured Senator Kolkhorst would, and did, support our position and that the District's letters to legislators reflecting the District's long standing concerns on HB1066 and SB800 would serve as the District's testimony. We also discussed the fact this legislation had achieved far more than the required 90% level of stakeholder support from the TWCA Interim Groundwater Committee, and that except for POSGCD, GCDs had unanimously supported this bill. I assured her staff I was available as a resource if needed.