



Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District

310 East Avenue C
P. O. Box 92
Milano, Texas 76556

Phone: 512-455-9900
Fax: 512-455-9909
Website: www.posgcd.org

Gary Westbrook, General Manager

September 9, 2022

Board of Directors
Post Oak Savannah GCD

Directors,

During testimony before the House Natural Resources Committee on August 24, 2022, Mrs. Sherill Smith, President of the Lost Pines GCD Board of Directors, made statements concerning information their staff and consultants had requested from our staff and consultants and had not received. I wish to clarify, and bring to conclusion, this situation.

Our consultant, Intera, has had an excellent working relationship with D.B Stephens, the consultant for LPGCD, for the entire duration of my tenure as general manager of Post Oak Savannah GCD. Further, Intera has in the past shared information with D.B. Stephens, and other consultants of GCDs in GMA 12, on amounts of water permitted and produced, as well as water levels recorded in our district. During July of this year Intera did have discussions with D. B. Stephens for a more specific request which was more detailed than some of the previous requests, and which would result in a bit more work on the part of Intera to provide the larger volume of information. Due to the increased volume of information requested, as well as the increased time necessary to respond to the request, Dr. Steve Young of Intera did instruct Mr. Andy Donnelly of D. B. Stephens to forward his request through me so I might be aware of the additional information and efforts to respond. That request came on July 27 of this year from an email from Mr. Donnelly. Mr. Donnelly's email included a request for a specific review of impacts caused by production from the Vista Ridge Project. I responded that same day to Mr. Donnelly, and copied Steve Young, their general manager, and general counsel, with the following:

"Hello Andy,

Thank you for the email. As always, we are more than happy to provide any data we have to our neighboring districts, and of course we appreciate your responding with like information when we seek it as well. Providing all of this does take a little effort, and hopefully in the not to distant future all of this can be available to everyone in a common database such as we are discussing in GMA 12 with Halff.

All that said, I will discuss with Steve and make sure you have access to the information. Please let him know of any specifics you have and copy me and Jim.

As for the larger question of a study on just Vista Ridge, we do not believe it will yield the most complete scientific results if we focus only on one specific project since all production affects conditions of the aquifer. We would welcome the opportunity to perform a more thorough evaluation of GMA wide production and impacts. I hope this is helpful."

Neither I nor Steve Young received the additional clarifying information I asked Andy to email in the response I provided above.

On August 22 we received a public information request from Peggy Campion of Lost Pines GCD. That request included any contracts we might have with Blue Water, Vista Ridge, or associated companies, as well as any production information and water level data we had received related to the Vista Ridge project.

I requested clarifying information again and asked if this was the same information that Mr. Donnelly had requested on July 27, 2022, and being the same information having been discussed at GMA 12 for inclusion by all GCDs into a common database for all to access and use. After a phone discussion for clarification with the Lost Pines general manager we did complete the task of providing a central link for Mr. Donnelly on September 2, 2022, to download the voluminous amount of information requested. I believe this information proves that we have been responsive in a timely fashion to all requests by staff and consultants from Lost Pines GCD. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary Westbrook". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Gary Westbrook
General Manager
Post Oak Savannah GCD
c: GMA 12 Members