

Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District (POSGCD)  
310 East Avenue C  
P.O. Box 92  
Milano, TX 76556

Sent via email to: [admin@posgcd.org](mailto:admin@posgcd.org)

August 30, 2022

RE: WRITTEN COMMENTS ON PROCESS FOLLOWED BY GROUNDWATER  
MANAGEMENT AREA 12 (GMA 12) IN ADOPTION OF DESIRED FUTURE  
CONDITIONS (DFCs)

GMA 12 Members,

My name is Mike Orosco. My wife and I are landowners in Lexington, TX near the Vista Ridge Project. We are grateful for the opportunity to provide comments to GMA 12 regarding the groundwater conservation districts (GCDs) process to set the DFCs for aquifers within the region.

Projects like Vista Ridge in Burleson County are a threat to the communities and aquifers from which they extract the water resource. We have suffered the impacts firsthand and would hope that the process for determining the DFCs will take full consideration and account the negative socio-economic impacts of exports projects like Vista Ridge have on the communities they extract from.

The water level in our domestic well in the Carrizo Aquifer dropped below the level of the pump within eight months of the Vista Ridge project commencing operation. The well has been in place for decades. We had to extend the well's drop pipe 100 feet to its maximum depth and install a larger pump to restore our water supply. Subsequently, the water level has dropped an additional 45 feet as of March 2022. With this rate of depletion, we will soon fall below the depth from which we can draw from the well and be forced to drill a new well to maintain our water supply. The cost will be immense. This should not be our burden to bear! Our water resources are being taken and sold out from under us for the profit and benefit of others.

Our story is not unique. Most of our neighbors in Lexington have been impacted in the same way. Our community cannot afford to bear the financial impact of the Vista Ridge project. The residents of San Antonio benefit from access to our water and Vista Ridge and POSGCD are enriched to the detriment of residents in Lee County. While POSGCD has a mitigation plan in place for landowners

in its region, there are many landowners outside of the POSGCD territory that are shouldering the cost of the decisions and analysis that enabled the Vista Ridge project.

The capital cost to mitigate water access, agricultural and other business impacts, and the erosion of property values will be devastating to the region. The personal and mental impacts on those affected is immeasurable. This is a crisis for the community and there are more threats to come from proposed projects such as the one proposed to supply the Samsung facility in Taylor from Milam County, and the Recharge and Gatehouse projects in Lee County. Therefore, we would strongly encourage GMA 12 to require the GCDs to properly consider all the above impacts via a formal Community Impact Assessment when setting the DFCs for export projects such as Vista Ridge. The impact assessment should cover the full extent of the affected area and not stop at artificial boundaries, as we all know that the aquifers don't end at the county line. Further, we would be grateful for GMA 12 to also fully consider comments and recommendations provided by the Simsboro Aquifer Water Defense Fund regarding this process.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and your consideration thereof.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. Orosco". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Mike Orosco  
2484 CR 411 | Lexington, TX 78947