

## **Summary of Speaker Comments at the October 10, 2005 RCWPG Meeting**

### **Comments Regarding Action Items**

The following public comments were provided to the RCWPG regarding the following Action Items:

#### Action Item A: Unique Stream Segments

No public comments were provided.

#### Action Item B: Adopt Resolution No. 05-1 Appointing Executive Committee to Develop Slate of Officers for 2006

No public comments were provided.

### **General Comments**

The following public comments were provided during the general comment period of the meeting:

1. Scott Norris, member of the development community

Mr. Norris spoke regarding the NCTCOG population projections that show the growth in the area to double. Future water sources for the area are imperative. He encouraged the planning group to continue with their planning effort and thanked them for their work.

2. David Nabors, Landowner in Paris, Texas

Mr. Nabors noted that while energy costs are increasing, so are construction costs, which will impact costs of large reservoir projects. Mr. Nabors cited some statistical information on total reservoir storage capacity in Texas. According to Mr. Nabors' calculations, Texas has sufficient water for 175 million people. He urged the planning group to consider connecting pipelines and using the water that we already have.

3. Rod Zilke, Tomlin Investments

Mr. Zilke works in the development of rural communities. Mr. Zilke supports the recommended strategies in the Initially Prepared Plan and encourages the planning group to recommend all of these strategies in the final plan, particularly the new reservoirs.

4. Beth Johnson, representing TCONR and the Dallas Chapter of the Sierra Club

Ms. Johnson questioned the use of the two-thirds rule for voting on the unique streams when a simple majority rule was used to limit public comment at a previous meeting. Ms. Johnson stated that RCWPG members refer to the water management strategies as a "wish list", which is contrary to the plan that says that suppliers intend to pursue these strategies. She questioned the choice of the Toledo Bend strategy over Wright Patman, and said that 278,000 acre-feet per year of water from Wright-Patman is left on the table in the current plan. As part of DWU's long-range planning efforts, HDR analyzed a viable scenario of using water from Lake Texoma. Ms.

Johnson also claimed that the consultants were to develop a scenario to use existing reservoirs over new reservoirs. She provided an example and stated that the burden of proof is to show why a scenario using only existing reservoirs cannot be used.

5. Jay Hawes, land developer

Mr. Hawes supports the planning group's work. He noted that water is a scarce resource and that new reservoirs, conservation and reuse will all be needed in the future. He commented that those who make DFW their home will need reliable water supplies.

6. Brian Parks, Provident Realty Advisors

Mr. Parks introduced himself as a land developer. He thanked the RCWPG for their efforts to ensure an adequate supply of water. He supports the RCWPG in their activities and efforts in water planning.

7. Jerry Valdez

Mr. Valdez thanked the planning group for making difficult decisions. He asked them to keep in mind the cost and efficiency of future supplies.

8. Rita Bevins, Conservation Chair Person for the Dallas Chapter of the Sierra Club

Ms. Bevins is concerned that the Region C water plan includes unneeded new reservoirs without justification. She is concerned about the impacts to landowners, ranching, farming, etc. Ms. Bevins claims that the total supply recommended in the plan is three times the amount of water needed through 2060. She stated that to pursue new reservoirs is not necessary and unconscionable rather than using existing reservoirs. She urged the planning group to reconsider the plan. Ms. Bevins is a local business owner and she is not asking to limit development in Dallas. She is asking for a commonsense solution and she believes that damming rivers is not the way.