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OPINION

Texas Democrats are wrong to oppose the Marvin Nichols reservoir

For Texas to grow, our cities must have water.



Water flows through a sedimentation basin at the North Texas Municipal Water District 400-acre treatment plant in Wylie, Texas, Thursday, February 15, 2018. North Texas Municipal and Dallas Water Utilities are preparing for the big increases in demand in the coming decades as well as taking into account the ever present threat of drought. (Tom Fox/The Dallas Morning News) (Tom Fox / Staff Photographer)

By Dallas Morning News Editorial
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The future of our region will be defined by the availability of water.

The problem is that as more people move here, and weather patterns deliver on increasing warming trends, there will be less water to go around.

Despite excellent planning and the construction of lakes that have been the foundation of North Texas' growth for generations, there aren't enough water resources for our future.

While cities across the Dallas-Fort Worth region have urged residents to conserve water, and while many people are doing the right thing by turning off the faucet, too many people are digging in against the real solution. We need more lakes, and we need them in places where it rains.

It was disappointing, then, to see the Texas Democratic Party pass a resolution opposing the Marvin Nichols Reservoir in East Texas, a reservoir that is in the state's long-term water plan for North Texas.

The reservoir would be built on the main stem of the Sulphur River in east Texas. The site was proposed in 1984 and has since been embroiled in disputes. Serious and considerate evaluations were needed, but the time has run out. The future generations of this region will suffer by the failure to move forward.

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BY HEWLETT PACKARD ENTERPRISE



The fifth water plan was adopted by the Texas Water Development Board last July. The plan includes the development of the Marvin Nichols Reservoir based on extensive data and science guided by hundreds of water-planning stakeholders. The plan highlights that Dallas is projected to have an inadequate water supply of 101,656 acre-feet by 2030.

Over the years, conservation efforts have become increasingly important for the state water plan. However, those strategies will not negate the long-term needs for more water supply for the region.

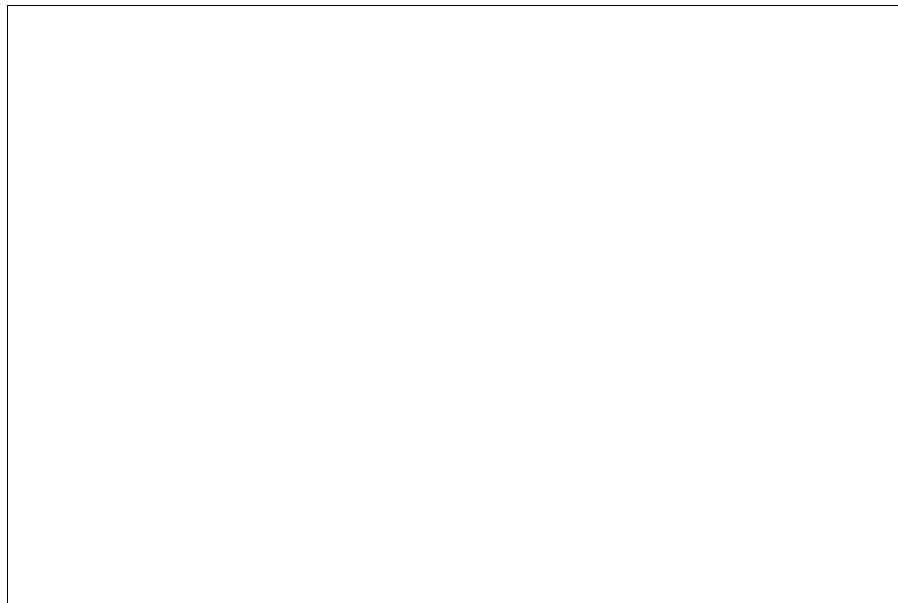
Those who oppose this plan are ignoring the warning signs. North Texas needs another major reservoir.

We welcome your thoughts in a letter to the editor. See the guidelines and [submit your letter here](#).



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