TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

P.O. Box 13231, Capitol Station Austin, TX 78711-3231

Phone: 512.463.7847 FAX: 512.475.2053

URL Address: http://www.twdb.state.tx.us

Email Address: info@twdb.state.tx.us

Texas Natural Resources Information System (TNRIS) http://www.tnris.state.tx.us

Borderlands Information Center (BIC) <u>http:/</u>/www.bic.state.tx.us

Water Information Integration and Dissemination (TWDB WIID System) http://wiid.twdb.state.tx.us/



TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Mission Statement To provide leadership, planning, financial assistance, information, and education for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas.

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is the state's water planning and water project financing agency. The TWDB's main responsibilities are threefold: collecting and disseminating waterrelated data; assisting with regional water planning, and preparing the State Water Plan for the development of the state's water resources; and administering cost-effective financial programs for the construction of water supply, wastewater treatment, flood control, and agricultural water conservation projects.

Since 1957 the TWDB has been charged with addressing the state's water needs. The TWDB has a leadership and support role through guiding, enabling and supporting the responsible development of the state's water resources, to ensure that sufficient water will be available at a reasonable cost while protecting the state's agricultural and natural resources.

The TWDB:

- Supports the development of regional water plans and incorporates them into a statewide water plan for the orderly and responsible development, management, and conservation of the state's water resources.
- Provides loans to local governments for water supply projects; water quality projects including wastewater treatment, municipal solid waste management, and nonpoint source pollution control; flood control projects; agricultural water conservation projects; rural and small community water and wastewater projects; and groundwater conservation district creation expenses.
- Provides grants and loans for the water and wastewater needs of the state's economically distressed areas.

- Provides agricultural water conservation and water-related research and planning grants.
- Conducts studies of the occurrence, quantity, quality, and availability of the state's surface water and groundwater, including development of groundwater availability models for the state's major and minor aquifers.
- Collects data and conducts studies concerning the freshwater needs of the state's bays and estuaries. In conjunction with other natural resources agencies, maintains an instream flow data collection and evaluation program. This includes conducting studies and analyses to determine appropriate methodologies for determining flow conditions in the state rivers and streams necessary to support a sound ecological environment.
- Facilitates the state's efforts to determine the feasibility and to identify the requirements for implementation of large-scale seawater desalination projects, and supports their implementation as appropriate. Supports ongoing desalination research and the sharing of technological information to enhance brackish groundwater and seawater desalination activities throughout the state.
- Maintains a centralized data repository of information on the state's natural resources called the Texas Natural Resources Information System (TNRIS) and manages the Strategic Mapping (StratMap) Initiative, a Texasbased, public and private sector cost-sharing program to develop consistent, large-scale digital base maps describing surface water, elevation, transportation, aerial photography, and other information.

The Governor appoints the TWDB's six-member Board of Directors to six-year staggered terms. The Board meets monthly, usually in Austin. The Board considers loan applications from eligible applicants, awards grants for water-related projects and conducts other Board business, such as approving regional water plans and adopting the State Water Plan.

For more information about the TWDB's financing programs, the State Water Plan and the TWDB's extensive collection of water data, contact the TWDB at 512/463-7847 or visit the web site at <u>www.twdb.state.tx.us</u>

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The Texas Water Development Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services, programs or activities. 1-800-RELAY TX (for the hearing impaired)