

CITIZENS ALLIANCE FOR RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 2905
WIMBERLEY, TX 78676

A RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE APPEAL BY THE WIMBERLEY VALLEY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION OF THE GMA 9 DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Management Area 9 Directors adopted a Desired Future Condition for the Trinity Aquifer that authorizes a thirty-foot decline in the aquifer over the next fifty years, and;

WHEREAS, the Citizens Alliance for Responsible Development (CARD), a citizens group in western Hays County, circulated a petition calling for a revised DFC for western Hays County with no more than a five-foot aquifer decline, and;

WHEREAS, the CARD petition was signed by over 600 citizens of Hays County and was presented to the directors of the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, and;

WHEREAS, CARD and many citizens of western Hays County believe that a thirty-foot decline of the Trinity Aquifer would cause widespread failure of private water wells, severe reduction of spring flows that feed area creeks and rivers, a reduction in property values resulting from lack of available groundwater, and a general decline of the area economy which is heavily dependent on tourism, and;

WHEREAS, the motivation for the thirty-foot DFC and the associated increased groundwater pumping is anchored upon a stubborn, perhaps misguided, reliance on population projections that do not take into account the limited groundwater resource of this area, and;

WHEREAS, the first responsibility of the Texas Water Development Board and local groundwater officials is to protect the groundwater and manage it in a sustainable manner for the future so that withdrawal rates do not exceed recharge rates, and;

WHEREAS, studies of the exempt and non-exempt pumping within western Hays County show that a sustainable groundwater withdrawal rate is already being exceeded by existing pumping, and;

WHEREAS, the availability of surface water within western Hays County will be limited to corridors that can support the high cost of the required infrastructure and the cost of imported water, and;

WHEREAS, the Wimberley Valley Watershed Association (WVWA) has filed an appeal of the thirty-foot DFC with the Texas Water Development Board;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY OFFICIAL RESOLUTION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE CITIZENS ALLIANCE FOR RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT ON NOVEMBER 8, 2011, THAT;

1. CARD and over 600 citizens of western Hays County support the appeal of the thirty-foot DFC by the WVWA, and;
2. CARD asks that the TWDB find that the thirty-foot DFC adopted by the GMA 9 Directors is unsustainable and inconsistent with the State Water Plan, and;
3. The TWDB find in favor of the appeal filed by the WVWA and direct the GMA 9 Directors to revise the DFC to a sustainable groundwater condition that will protect property values and the area's economy.

STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE CITIZENS ALLIANCE FOR RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT:

James R. McMeans, Chair; Louis Parks, Vice Chair; Linda Kaye Rogers, Treasurer; Cynthia Marion, Secretary; Larry Calvert; Susan Cook; Melissa Gilmore; David Glenn; Jack Hollon; Barbara Hopson; Dorothy Knight; Linda Lang; Christine Middleton; Rusty Middleton; DuAnne Redus; Roberta Shoemaker-Beal; Herb Smith; Frank Sullivan; Pam Sullivan; Alice Wightman; Donna Williams; Susan Zimmerman