



San Jacinto River Authority

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January 5, 2018

Representative Lyle Larson, Chairman
House Committee on Natural Resources
PO Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768-2910

Dear Chairman Larson:

I am in receipt of your letter dated December 18, 2017, and I want to thank you for reaching out to the San Jacinto River Authority to provide input on the important issues you have raised. The response of Texans to the Hurricane Harvey disaster has already demonstrated the resourcefulness and resilience of our citizens and leaders, but there is certainly more work to be done. Like our response to the drought of the 1950's, we need to be bold and forward-thinking in the solutions we develop. The SJRA looks forward to partnering with our neighbors toward that end.

Your letter addresses two primary issues – dredging as a flood control strategy and the impacts and benefits of creating flood storage in Lake Conroe.

On the issue of dredging, I am pleased to report that SJRA is already in discussions with leadership from Montgomery County and the Harris County Flood Control District on a regional flood management study that will look at, among other topics, dredging and other mitigation strategies. The parties are discussing the filing of an application with the Texas Water Development Board to fund this study. We would appreciate any assistance you can provide with the application, as this will be an important study for our region.

On the issue of creating flood storage in Lake Conroe, SJRA has begun the process of working with our engineer-of-record for Lake Conroe reservoir operations and will be developing responses over the next several weeks. We will share these responses with you and your committee as soon as they are available.

In the meantime, I will continue to coordinate closely with your staff on the status of the grant application and our progress on answering your questions.

Sincerely,

Jace A. Houston
General Manager

cc: House Natural Resource Committee Members
The Honorable Dan Huberty, State Representative, District 127
Russ Poppe, P.E., Executive Director, Harris County Flood Control District
Stephen Costello, P.E., Chief Resiliency Officer, City of Houston
Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator, Texas Water Development Board
Dr. Michael Sterling, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Southwestern Division

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