

Drought Contingency Plan

for

**San Jacinto River Authority
Highlands Division**

Prepared by

San Jacinto River Authority

Adopted: April 25, 2024

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Section 1. Introduction

In 1996, severe drought conditions affected every region of the State. Water systems throughout the State were forced to cope with water shortages or system capacity problems. In response to the 1996 drought, the 75th Texas Legislature enacted Senate Bill 1, which directed the State to take a regional approach to water planning. One of the provisions of the legislation required the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to adopt rules requiring wholesale and retail public water suppliers to develop water conservation and drought contingency plans.¹

Water conservation and drought contingency plans work together to help Texans manage short-term and long-term water shortages. The goal of a water conservation plan is to achieve lasting, long-term improvements in water use efficiencies using strategies to reduce the amount of water withdrawn from a particular source, and to ensure that the water withdrawn is used in an efficient manner. Drought contingency plans are short-term in nature, using temporary supply and demand management measures in response to temporary and potentially recurring water shortages and other emergencies.

The San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), as a water right holder and wholesale water supplier, is required to submit a Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan to the TCEQ and Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). SJRA was created by the Texas Legislature in 1937 to:

“Provide water for domestic, municipal, commercial, industrial and mining purposes within and without the watershed of [the San Jacinto River], including water supplies for cities, towns and industries, and in connection therewith to construct or otherwise acquire water transportation, treatment and distribution facilities and supplemental sources of water.”²

The SJRA service area includes all of Montgomery County and portions of Waller, Grimes, Walker, San Jacinto, Fort Bend, and Liberty Counties (Figure 1-1). The SJRA also serves customers and is authorized to operate in east Harris County through an agreement with the City of Houston.

SJRA is governed by a Board of Directors. The General Manager oversees approximately 170 employees and all facilities across five divisions: Lake Conroe, Highlands, Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP), Woodlands, and Flood Management. The following is provided as the Drought Contingency Plan (including utility description, service area description, and drought measures) for the Highlands Division (the Division). The Division’s Water Conservation Plan is provided under separate cover.

¹ Senate Bill 1, 75th Legislature, Section 12.1272 of the Texas Water Code.

² House Bill No. 832, 45th Legislature, Regular Session, Austin, TX, 1937.

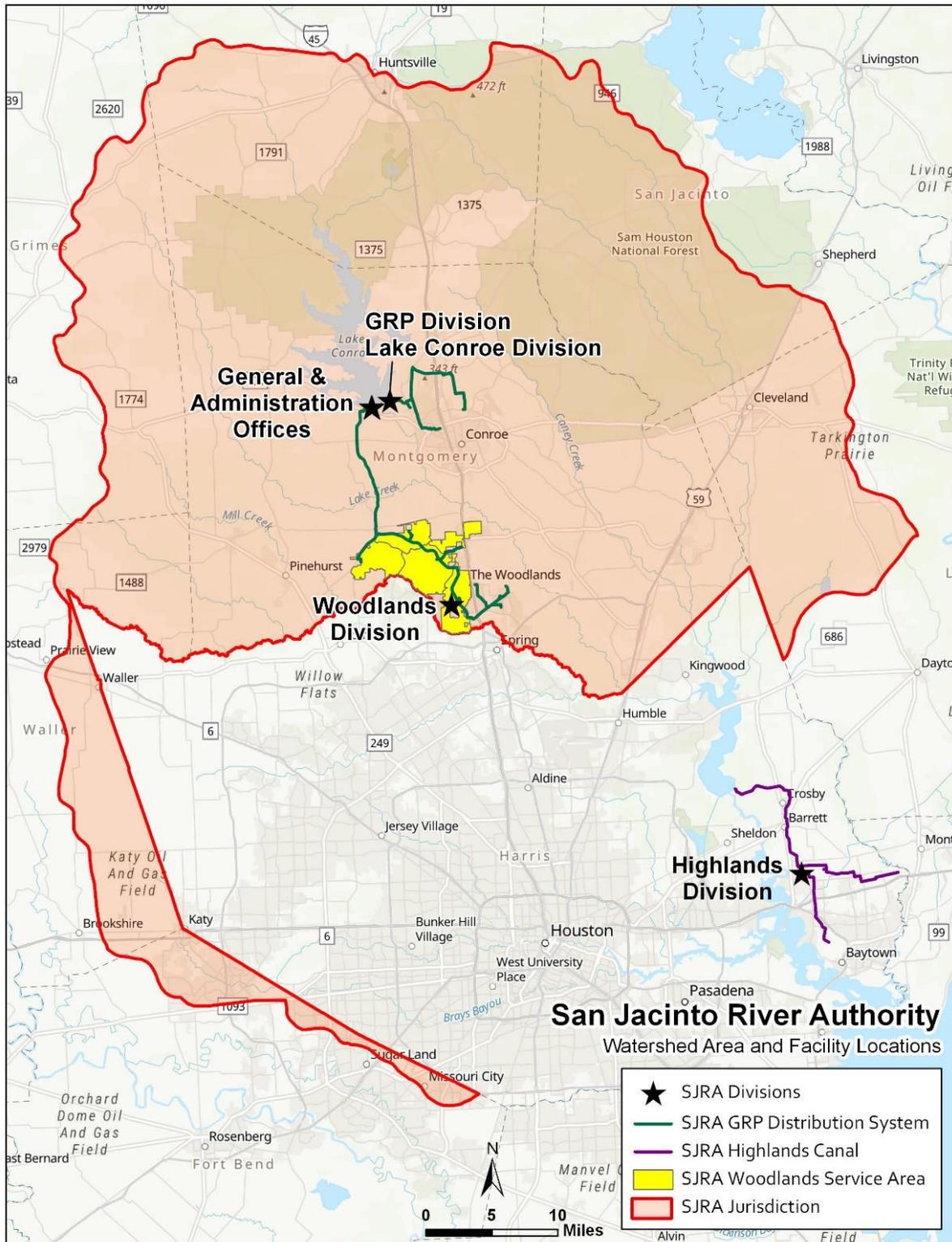


Figure 1-1. Watershed Area and Facility Locations

Section 2. Utility and Service Area Description

2.1 Utility Description

In 1945, SJRA purchased the Highlands Canal System. SJRA has since maintained, improved, and expanded this system which serves municipal, industrial, and agricultural/irrigation customers in southeast Harris County. SJRA's water rights serving the Highlands service area also allow for mining usage, however SJRA does not currently serve any mining customers in this service area. Water available for this system is obtained from the following:

SJRA obtained a 55,000 ac-ft/yr run-of-river right (Certificate of Adjudication (COA) 10-4964) from water stored in and diverted from Lake Houston. The Highlands Canal System transfers this water from Lake Houston to the approximately 1,400-acre Highlands Reservoir, which serves as a regulating/staging reservoir for the system, and then South and East to the Baytown and Cedar Bayou areas, respectively, via approximately 27 miles of canals. COA 10-4964 is currently permitted for multiple uses.

In 1994, SJRA and the Devers Canal Rice Producers Association (DCRPA) purchased the bulk assets of Trinity Water Reserve, Inc. Those assets included the Devers Canal System, which covers parts of Liberty, Chambers, and Jefferson Counties, as well as Permit No. 5271, which authorizes a 58,500 ac-ft/yr diversion from the Trinity River at a point in south central Liberty County. The purchase arrangements included the transfer of 56,000 ac-ft/yr of water rights to SJRA. The remaining 2,500 ac-ft/yr of water rights were transferred to DCRPA. Permit No. 5271 was successfully amended to reflect the purchase arrangement. SJRA's 56,000 ac-ft/yr right is permitted for multiple uses.

In 2003, SJRA purchased an additional 30,000 ac-ft/yr of Trinity River water rights from the Chambers Liberty Counties Navigation District (CLCND) under Certificate of Adjudication No. 08-4279. This certificate is permitted for multiple uses.

In 2004, SJRA was granted 14,944 ac-ft/yr of water rights associated with groundwater based effluent return flows from its three wastewater treatment plants in the San Jacinto River Basin (Permit 5809). This permit is available for multiple uses.

In 2008, SJRA was granted 14,100 ac-ft/yr of unappropriated firm yield (additional storage) of Lake Houston under Permit No. 5807. This permit is available for multiple uses.

In 2009, SJRA was granted 40,000 ac-ft/yr of yield (additional run-of-river) from the San Jacinto River to be diverted at Lake Houston through Permit No. 5808. This supply is considered interruptible based on flow conditions within the San Jacinto River but may be utilized within SJRA's service area. This permit is available for multiple uses.

In 2019, the SJRA was granted 11,200 ac-ft/yr of water rights associated with the conveyance of surface water-based return flows from treated surface water under Water Use Permit No. 13183.

SJRA operates Lake Conroe, one of two major surface water supply reservoirs located in the San Jacinto River Basin. Completed in 1973, Lake Conroe is owned by SJRA and the City of Houston. SJRA owns one-third (33,333 ac-ft/yr) and the City of Houston owns two-thirds (66,667 ac-ft/yr) of the total 100,000 ac-ft/yr permitted water rights from the lake under Certificate of Adjudication (COA) 10-4963. Lake Conroe’s water right’s availability to the Highlands Division is limited due to use/reservation of the lake as a supply for the SJRA Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP) Division. Lake Houston, which is owned by the City of Houston, is the other surface water supply reservoir in the basin.

SJRA meets wholesale raw water needs in the Highlands Division service area through a combination of sources. Water from run-of-river COA 10-4964 and Permit 5808, along with Lake Houston reservoir yield from Permit 5807, and SJRA’s reuse authorized under Permit 5809 is diverted at the southeast corner of Lake Houston via SJRA’s Lake Houston Pump Station (LHPS) to supply the Highlands Canal System. Water from Permit 13183 would also be diverted from the LHPS, however SJRA has not yet updated the Lake Houston Accounting Plan to incorporate this water right. SJRA’s water rights in the Trinity River as appropriated in Permit 5271 and COA 08-4279 are utilized via the Coastal Water Authority (CWA) Main Canal conveyance system and pumped to the Highlands Canal System at two locations south and east of the Highlands Reservoir. SJRA’s portfolio of water supplies is summarized in Table 2-1 below.

Table 2-1. SJRA Water Rights Portfolio

Source*	Permitted Amount (ac-ft/yr)
Trinity River (COA 08-4279)	30,000
Lake Conroe (COA 10-4963)	33,333
Lake Houston (COA 10-4964)	55,000
Trinity River (Permit 08-5271)	56,000
Lake Houston (Permit 10-5807)	14,100
Lake Houston (Permit 10-5808)	40,000
Reuse (Permit 10-5809)	14,944
Reuse (Permit 13183)	11,200
* Please note that not all water sources shown are available to all SJRA Divisions.	

2.2 Service Area Description

The approximately 2,453 square mile area of SJRA’s jurisdiction within the San Jacinto River Basin is bounded on the north and the east by the Trinity River Basin and the Trinity-San Jacinto Coastal Basin, on the west by the Brazos River Basin, and on the south by Harris County. The Division is a wholesale provider of surface water (via the Highlands Canal System) for industrial, agricultural/irrigation, and municipal uses, and also has the ability to provide for mining uses, although there are currently no mining customers served by the Division. The Highlands Division service area, per Agreement with City of Houston, covers approximately 201 square miles in Harris County east of the San Jacinto River. Figure 2-1 illustrates

the layout of the Highlands Canal System. SJRA also serves two customers via reuse (Permit 5809) in The Woodlands, Texas area. While these customers are not directly served by Highlands Division infrastructure, they are included with other Highlands Division customers in SJRA reporting and documentation.

Via the Highlands Canal System, the Division provides water to Crosby MUD and Newport MUD (Figure 2-2) and is currently reserving water for other municipal customers for future use. The Division also provides water to industrial customers in the Baytown and Cedar Bayou areas. Finally, the Division periodically provides water to agricultural/irrigation customers as well as short-term water customers of various types. The service area of the two MUDs currently receiving water from the Division is approximately 7.4 square miles. The Division does not currently serve any mining customers. In 2023, SJRA diverted a total of 87,289 ac-ft from the water rights serving the Highlands Division, and the Division’s customers diverted a total of 89,436 ac-ft from the Highlands Canal System (Table 2-2). The Division does not own or operate wastewater infrastructure.

Table 2-2. 2023 Surface Water Diversion

Municipal	2,128 ac-ft
Industrial	86,779 ac-ft
Agricultural/Irrigation	529 ac-ft
Total	89,436 ac-ft

Values in Table 2-2 are based on customer usage by type, not SJRA diversions of its water rights. As noted above, in 2023 SJRA customers used more water than diverted due to rainfall capture, etc.

In 2023, total wholesale municipal use via the Highlands Canal System was 2,128 ac-ft. The Baytown Industrial Complex/Cedar Bayou area in eastern Harris County is home to numerous industries to which the Division provides water. In 2023, there was a total of 86,779 ac-ft diverted from the Highlands Canal System to provide wholesale raw water to the Division’s industrial customers in those areas, as well as to multiple short-term customers for industrial use. Water supplied by the Division to its long-term customers in the Baytown and Cedar Bayou areas is used in petroleum refining and chemical production industries to produce products such as petrochemicals, other chemicals, and refined products.

Wholesale raw water is also provided by the Division to agricultural/irrigation customers in eastern Harris County as requested. In 2023, the Highlands Division served one irrigation customer. The two customers described above who are served by reuse water in The Woodlands, Texas area also utilized water for irrigation purposes. Between these three customers there was a total of 529 ac-ft diverted for agricultural/irrigation uses. A full report of the Division’s municipal, industrial, and agricultural/irrigation customer information can be found in Appendix A, the Water Utility Profiles. As noted above, the Division does not currently serve any mining customers.

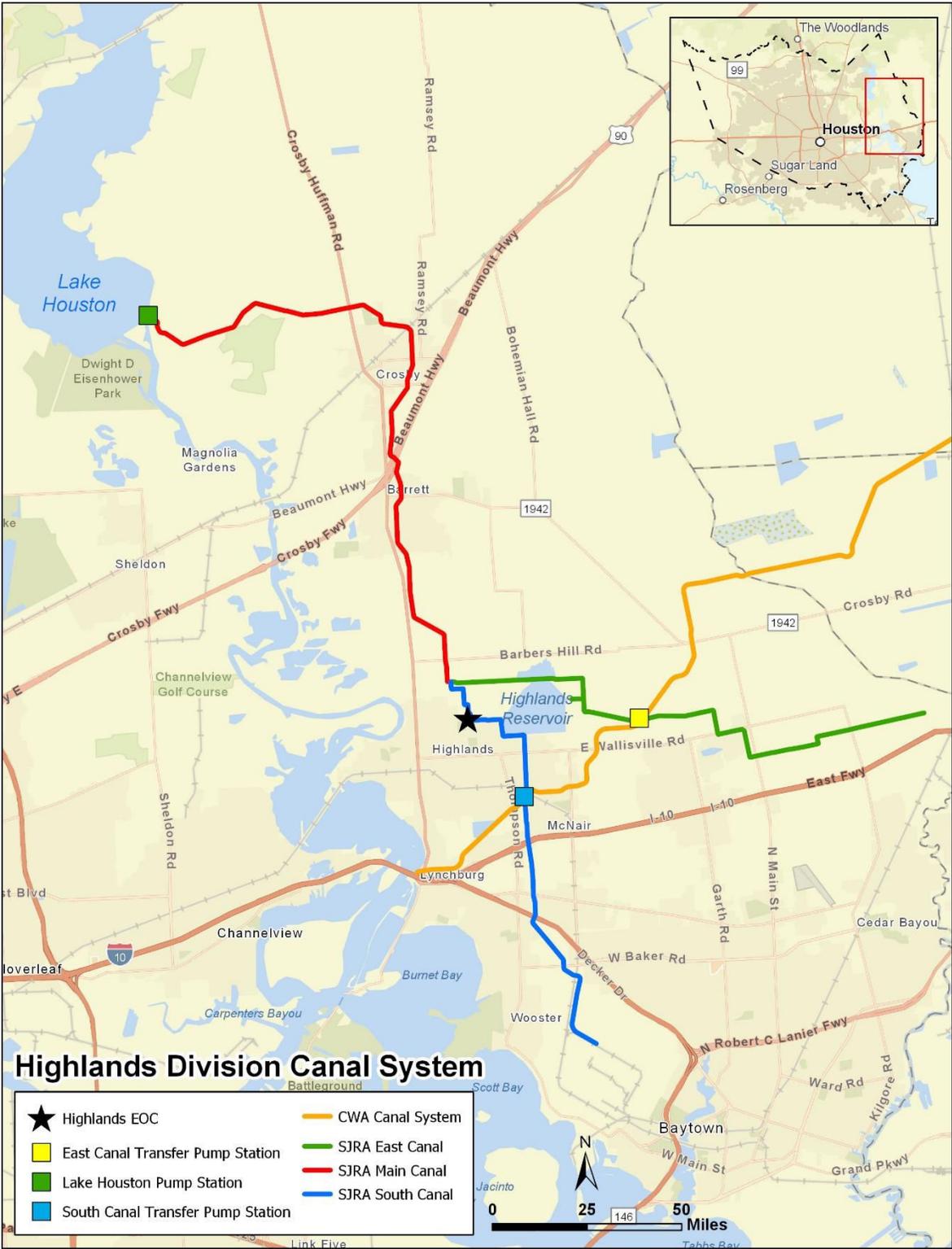


Figure 2-1. Highlands Canal System Layout

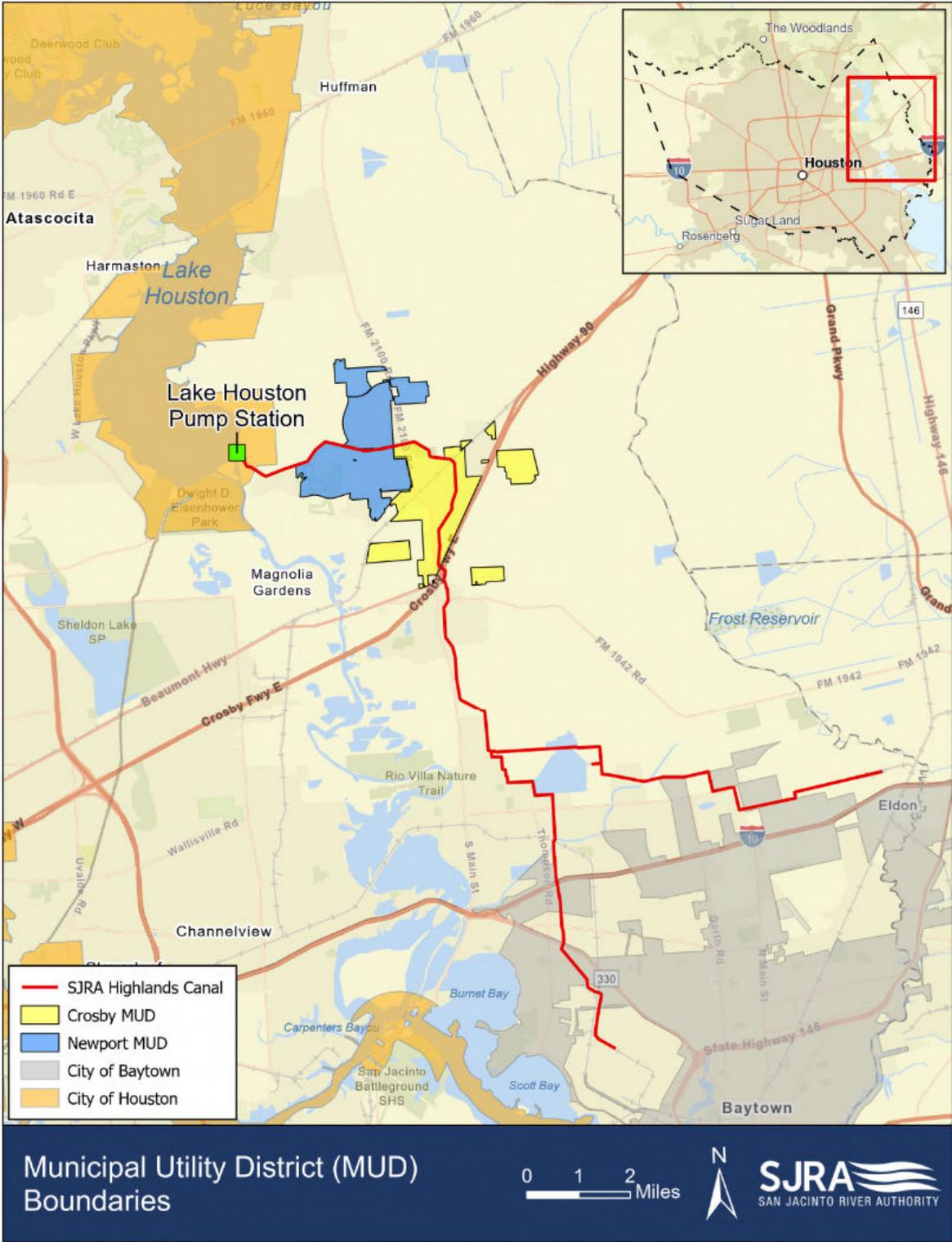


Figure 2-2. Municipal Utility District (MUD) Boundaries

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Section 3. Drought Contingency Plan

Drought, or a number of other uncontrollable circumstances, can disrupt the normal availability of water supply. Even though an area may have an adequate water supply, the supply can become contaminated, or a disaster can disrupt or destroy the supply. During drought periods, consumer demand is often significantly higher than normal. The failure or inadequacy of a raw water delivery system can also present a utility with an emergency demand management situation.

It is important to distinguish between drought contingency planning and water conservation planning. As detailed in the Division's Water Conservation Plan, water conservation involves implementing permanent water use efficiencies or reuse practices. Drought contingency planning establishes temporary methods or techniques to be used only as drought and/or emergency conditions persist. The SJRA has developed a drought contingency plan with regard to the wholesaling of surface water from Lake Houston and the Trinity River to the customers of the Division.

3.1 Drought Contingency Plan – Highlands Division

SJRA provides raw surface water primarily from Lake Houston and the Trinity River to customers of the Division. In order to conserve the available water supply and/or protect the integrity of water supply facilities during water supply shortages or other supply emergency conditions that can have adverse effects on its customers, SJRA has developed the following drought contingency plan elements.

3.2 Trigger Conditions – Initiation and Termination

As discussed in Section 2 of this drought contingency plan, SJRA provides raw surface water to its Highlands Division customers primarily from Lake Houston and the Trinity River. For this reason, initiation of drought stages for the Division is based on the water surface elevation of Lake Houston³ in conjunction with Trinity River flows at Romayor, Texas⁴.

The General Manager of the SJRA or a designated representative will monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a monthly basis or more frequently as conditions warrant and will determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each drought stage. The trigger points listed below have been selected through a hydrologic modeling process to work conjunctively with the measures identified in Section 3.4 to extend the availability of critical water supplies while simultaneously achieving the highest practicable level of efficiency in water use from a social and economic standpoint across customer classes. If deemed appropriate by the General Manager or a designated representative, termination of a drought stage

³ Vertical datum NAVD 1988, 2001 adjustment

⁴ USGS Gage 08066500 Trinity River at Romayor, TX

is followed by initiation of a lower drought stage. An Emergency Water Supply Condition may be initiated or terminated without subsequent enactment of other stages. The various drought contingency stages may be initiated or terminated at the discretion of the General Manager or a designated representative. Otherwise, initiation and termination of the stages shall be as follows:

Stage 1: Voluntary Reduction

Initiation:

- Lake Houston is below an elevation of 40.2 feet and Trinity River flows at Romayor are below 4,000 cubic feet per second; or
- Termination of a more severe drought condition, if deemed appropriate by the General Manager or a designated representative; or
- Monitoring of water demands/weather forecasts indicate earlier initiation is necessary, as determined by the General Manager or designated representative.

Termination:

- Lake Houston is above an elevation of 40.2 feet or Trinity River flows at Romayor are above 4,000 cubic feet per second for seven consecutive days; or
- Termination of Stage 1 due to indications from monitoring of water demands/weather forecasts.

Stage 2: Moderate Conditions

Initiation:

- Lake Houston is below an elevation of 39.2 feet and Trinity River flows at Romayor are below 4,000 cubic feet per second; or
- Termination of a more severe drought condition, if deemed appropriate by the General Manager or a designated representative; or
- Monitoring of water demands/weather forecasts indicate earlier initiation is necessary, as determined by the General Manager or designated representative.

Termination:

- Lake Houston is above an elevation of 39.2 feet or Trinity River flows at Romayor are above 4,000 cubic feet per second for seven consecutive days; or
- Termination of Stage 2 due to indications from monitoring of water demands/weather forecasts.

Stage 3: Advanced Conditions

Initiation:

- Lake Houston is below an elevation of 37.2 feet; or
- Termination of a more severe drought condition, if deemed appropriate by the General Manager or a designated representative; or
- Monitoring of water demands/weather forecasts indicate earlier initiation is necessary, as determined by the General Manager or designated representative.

Termination:

- Lake Houston is above an elevation of 37.2 feet for seven consecutive days; or
- Termination of Stage 3 due to indications from monitoring of water demands/weather forecasts.

Stage 4: Severe Conditions

Initiation:

- Lake Houston is below an elevation of 35.2 feet; or
- Monitoring of water demands/weather forecasts indicate earlier initiation is necessary, as determined by the General Manager or designated representative.

Termination:

- Lake Houston is above an elevation of 35.2 feet for seven consecutive days; or
- Termination of Stage 4 due to indications from monitoring of water demands/weather forecasts.

Emergency Water Supply Condition

Initiation:

- Anticipation of a drought condition beyond historical level of severity; or
- System failure in the Highlands Canal system; or
- Contamination of the water supply has occurred; or
- Enactment of Emergency Water Supply Condition initiation due to other factors at the discretion of the General Manager or a designated representative.

Termination:

- Restoration of the Highlands Canal system to operational status; or
- Containment or elimination of water supply contamination
- Termination of Emergency Water Supply Condition due to other factors at the discretion of

the General Manager or a designated representative.

Each stage may also be initiated or terminated at the discretion of the General Manager or a designated representative.

3.3 Notification of Initiation and Termination

The General Manager or a designated representative will notify its wholesale customer representatives in writing by electronic mail when a trigger condition has been met. When the trigger conditions that initiated the drought measures have subsided, the General Manager or a designated representative will inform the wholesale customer representatives in writing by electronic mail. Additionally, TCEQ will be notified within five business days of initiation or termination of drought stages beyond Stage 1. Notification of drought stage initiation or termination will also be posted on the SJRA website.

3.4 Utilization of Alternative Water Sources

SJRA’s ongoing water supply planning efforts include both technical analyses as well as water rights authorization requests that meet long-term reuse needs. In particular, SJRA has developed a Raw Water Supply Master Plan (“RWSMP”) which evaluates existing SJRA water supplies, future projected water demands in SJRA’s service areas, and additional SJRA water supply needs based on the difference between those existing supplies and future demands. This analysis covers a 50-year planning period, and ultimately results in the recommendation of water supply strategies to accommodate future needs in SJRA’s service areas.

Based on coordination with SJRA Highlands Division existing customers, as well as the identification of potential new customers to be served by SJRA in the Highlands Service Area, it is projected that substantial additional water supply may be needed in excess of existing supplies and water conservation capabilities, as well as potentially in excess of previous RWP projections. The majority of SJRA’s current demand in the Highlands Service Area is industrial, providing minimal opportunity for water conservation as industrial facilities often operate in an “on/off” capacity.

The RWSMP considers numerous alternatives for additional water supply in the Highlands Service Area, including use of SJRA’s water rights in the Trinity River Basin, transfers from Lake Livingston, and purchase of water from other wholesale providers, among others. Strategies are ranked based on multiple weighted criteria, including costs, schedule, legal, environmental considerations, scalability, and others. Indirect reuse is a highly ranked strategy to meet these supply needs. SJRA has determined it necessary and reasonable to pursue permitting of municipal return flows for use in its Highlands Service Area.

3.5 Drought Response Stages

The General Manager or a designated representative will monitor water supply and/or demand conditions, and in accordance with the triggering criteria set forth in Section 3.2 will determine that a water shortage exists, or when an emergency condition exists. The reductions listed below have been selected through a hydrologic modeling process to work conjunctively with the trigger points identified in Section 3.2 to extend the availability of critical water supplies while simultaneously achieving the highest practicable level of efficiency in water use from a social and economic standpoint across customer classes. The following actions will be taken when a drought stage or Emergency Water Supply Condition is initiated:

Stage 1: Voluntary Reduction

Target: Achieve a voluntary 5% reduction in use

- Contact wholesale raw water customers of the Division to discuss situation.
- Request that wholesale customers initiate voluntary measures to reduce water use.

Stage 2: Moderate Conditions

Target: Achieve a 5% reduction in non-industrial use (October through March)

Achieve a 10% reduction in non-industrial use (April through September)

- Contact wholesale raw water customers of the Division to discuss situation.
- Require non-industrial wholesale customers to initiate mandatory measures to reduce water use by a seasonal 5% or 10%.

Stage 3: Advanced Conditions

Target: Achieve a 10% reduction in non-industrial use (October through March)

Achieve a 20% reduction in non-industrial use (April through September)

Achieve a 1% reduction in industrial use

- Contact wholesale raw water customers of the Division to discuss situation and continue to do so on a weekly basis until termination.
- Require wholesale customers to initiate mandatory measures to reduce water use by a seasonal 10% or 20% for non-industrial customers and 1% for industrial customers.

Stage 4: Severe Conditions

Target: Achieve a 15% reduction in non-industrial use (October through March)

Achieve a 30% reduction in non-industrial use (April through September)

Achieve a 5% reduction in industrial use

- Contact wholesale raw water customers of the Division to discuss situation and continue to do so on a weekly basis until termination.
- Require wholesale customers to initiate mandatory measures to reduce water use by a seasonal 15% or 30% for non-industrial customers and 5% for industrial customers.

Emergency Water Supply Condition

Target: Subject to scope and nature of emergency

- If appropriate, notify city, county, and/or state emergency response officials for assistance.
- Assess the severity of the problem and identify actions needed and time required to solve the problem.
- Notify TCEQ within five days of initiation or termination of emergency conditions.
- Inform wholesale customers and discuss possible actions, including but not limited to initiation of actions available under Stages 1 through 4.
- If deemed necessary by the General Manager or a designated representative, impose mandatory water rationing per Texas Water Code (TWC) §11.039 to reduce water demand to a level determined by the General Manager or a designated representative and notify TCEQ.
- Undertake necessary actions, such as repair or cleanup, to resolve issue.

3.6 Pro Rata Water Allocation

If deemed necessary by the General Manager or a designated representative due to a drought or Emergency Water Supply Condition, SJRA will initiate allocation of water supplies on a pro rata basis in accordance with TWC §11.039 and the force majeure clause and other relevant terms of the contract in place with each raw water customer. TWC §11.039 directs that if a shortage occurs due to drought, accident, or other cause in a water supply covered by a TWDB-approved Water Conservation Plan, the entity controlling the supply shall divide the water to be distributed pro rata among all customers.

3.7 Compliance Metrics

The target of Stages 1 through 4 (and in some circumstances an Emergency Water Supply Condition) is to reduce water use by certain percentages. Because water demands for Division customers change over

time and may be impacted by weather conditions or application of drought response measures, a standard approach to defining a customer's demand must be applied. For the purposes of this drought contingency plan, each customer's demand shall be determined as that customer's water use for the preceding two years, averaged for each month. These demand values will be provided to customers at the beginning of each year. Customer requests for variances to the provided demand values will be considered at an administrative level through an appeal process as described in Section 3.8.

3.8 Public Involvement

Public involvement measures associated with this drought contingency plan shall include the following:

- Making proposed documents available to the public prior to adoption, upon request.
- Posting of notice of an SJRA Board of Directors meeting to include consideration of the plan for adoption.
- Consideration and adoption of the plan by the SJRA Board of Directors at a meeting to be open to the public.
- Upon adoption of the plan, the completed drought contingency plan with relevant documentation reflecting adoption will be posted on the SJRA website.

3.9 Procedures for Granting Variances

The General Manager or a designated representative may grant a temporary variance to mandatory measures to reduce water use, to calculated customer demand as discussed in Section 3.6, or to pro rata water allocation policies if one or more of the following conditions are met:

- Failure to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the public health, welfare, or safety.
- Compliance with this plan cannot be technically accomplished during the duration of the water supply shortage or other conditions for which the plan is in effect.
- Alternative methods can be implemented which will achieve the same level of reduction in water use.

The decision to grant or deny such a variance is at the discretion of the General Manager or a designated representative. Persons or entities requesting an exemption from the provisions of this plan shall file a written petition for variance with the General Manager or a designated representative within five business days after the mandatory measures to reduce water use or the pro rata allocation has been invoked. Once received, the General Manager or a designated representative will have five business days to respond, in writing, to a petition for variance.

3.10 Implementation and Enforcement

The General Manager or a designated representative will be responsible for implementation and enforcement of the drought contingency plan. During any period when pro rata allocation of available water supplies is in effect, the General Manager or a designated representative has the authority to discontinue service to any customer who fails to comply with the conditions of the allocation, declaring the customer in breach of contract. Prior to discontinuance of service, the General Manager or a designated representative will issue a warning to the wholesale customer, and work with the customer to ensure that they are complying with the restrictions. In the event the customer fails to voluntarily comply, a court injunction will be obtained for violation of the Texas Water Code and for breach of contract.

Once notified of initiation of a drought stage with mandatory demand reduction, Division customers are required to reduce their water use in accordance with the appropriate stage as described above. In order to promote compliance with the drought contingency plan, the General Manager or a designated representative may enact a special temporary drought contingency rate structure with certain non-promotional rates for each drought stage. Customers failing to comply with mandatory demand reductions may also be subject to disincentive fees and be required to reimburse SJRA or the Division for any costs, fines, or penalties incurred by SJRA or the Division as a result of the customer's noncompliance. Enforcement actions, including penalties, will not be put into place until 30 calendar days after a drought stage is initiated.

3.11 Coordination with RWPG

The Division is located within the Region H Regional Water Planning Area. In accordance with TCEQ rules, the Division has provided a copy of the Division drought contingency plan to the Region H Regional Water Planning Group. A copy of the transmittal letter is included in Appendix A.

3.12 Updating of the Plan

Every five years, SJRA will examine the Division's operations to determine if trigger conditions need to be re-established. Updates may also be considered earlier than each five years in the case of any changes to operations that would warrant a re-examination of the trigger conditions. Any updates will result in a revised drought contingency plan.

The drought contingency plan for the Division has been adopted by a resolution of the Board of Directors of SJRA. A copy of the resolution is included in Appendix A.

Appendix A
Resolutions Passed by SJRA
Transmittal Letter to Region H RWPG

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RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R-13

RESOLUTION ADOPTING REVISED WATER CONSERVATION PLANS AND DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLANS; AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH REVISED PLANS; REPEALING AND RESCINDING ALL PRIOR PLANS; AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT

WHEREAS, the San Jacinto River Authority (the "Authority") has water rights issued by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and its predecessor agencies (collectively, the "TCEQ") to divert water from the San Jacinto River and Trinity River basins; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, by and through its Highlands Division, owns and operates water supply and distribution systems and facilities, including the Lake Houston Pump Station, East Canal Transfer Pump Station, South Canal Transfer Pump Station, Highlands Reservoir, and the Highlands Canal System, in order to sell and deliver water out of such rights to certain customers generally located in eastern Harris County; and

WHEREAS, the Authority also owns an interest in Lake Conroe Dam and Reservoir, located in Montgomery and Walker Counties ("Lake Conroe") upstream on the San Jacinto River from the Lake Houston Reservoir, and holds certain contract rights and water rights issued by the TCEQ to divert or release and use water from Lake Conroe; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, by and through its Lake Conroe Division, operates Lake Conroe and sells water out of such rights to customers located in Montgomery County, and

WHEREAS, the Authority, by and through its Woodlands Division, owns and operates an extensive water supply and distribution system and facilities for providing regional, wholesale services to customers in the area of The Woodlands; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, by and through its Groundwater Reduction Plan Division (the "GRP Division"), owns and operates a surface water treatment facility and transmission system that withdraws water from Lake Conroe for treatment, distribution and sale to its Woodlands Division and certain other customers; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the management of such facilities, systems and operations, the Authority has previously adopted various Water Conservation Plans and Drought Contingency Plans (collectively, the "Plans") in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 11, Texas Water Code, as amended, and the rules of the TCEQ under Chapter 288 of Title 30, Texas Administrative Code, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Authority has determined that it is in the public interest to revise and replace the Plans; Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY, THAT:

Section 1: The Plans, as previously adopted and amended by the Authority, are hereby repealed and rescinded in their entirety.

Section 2: The Board of Directors of the Authority hereby approves and adopts the revised water conservation and drought contingency plans, each dated as of the date hereof, titled as follows: *Water Conservation Plan for San Jacinto River Authority Highlands Division; Drought Contingency Plan for San Jacinto River Authority Highlands Division; Water Conservation Plan for San Jacinto River Authority Lake Conroe Division; Drought Contingency Plan for San Jacinto River Authority Lake Conroe Division; Water Conservation Plan for San Jacinto River Authority Woodlands Division; Drought Contingency Plan for San Jacinto River Authority Woodlands Division; Water Conservation Plan for San Jacinto River Authority GRP Division; and Drought Contingency Plan for San Jacinto River Authority GRP Division* (collectively, the "Revised Plans").

Section 3: The Revised Plans, together with any amendments thereto which may be made from time to time, shall be maintained on file in the official records of the Authority and filed, as appropriate, with the TCEQ, the Texas Water Development Board and any other agencies with jurisdiction.

Section 4: It shall be the policy of the Authority that the programs and procedures set forth in the Revised Plans be implemented immediately.

Section 5: The General Manager of the Authority is hereby designated as the official responsible for implementation of the Revised Plans in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the Revised Plans.

Section 6: It shall be the policy of the Authority to support and assist its wholesale and retail customers in (1) designating their pre-assigned officials as having the responsibility and authority to implement the Revised Plans, (2) allowing for enforcement of the Revised Plans, and (3) providing civil penalties for noncompliance with the Revised Plans.

Section 7: It shall be the policy of the Authority that the *Water Conservation Plan for San Jacinto River Authority GRP Division* and the *Drought Contingency Plan for San Jacinto River Authority GRP Division* establish minimum requirements which shall be adopted, respectively, in a water conservation plan and a drought contingency by each participant in the Authority's Groundwater Reduction Plan. The General Manager of the Authority and the GRP Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to take such actions as are deemed necessary and appropriate to ensure that the participants in the Authority's Groundwater Reduction Plan (the "Participants") adopt water conservation plans and drought contingency plans that are reasonably determined to meet or exceed such minimum requirements. Further, it shall be the policy of the Authority to support and assist the Participants in (1) adopting such water conservation plans and drought contingency plans, and (2) implementing and enforcing such water conservation plans and drought contingency plans.

Section 8: This Resolution shall be and remain in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of April, 2024.



President, Board of Directors



Secretary, Board of Directors

(SEAL)



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April 25, 2024

Mark Evans, Chair
Region H Water Planning Group
c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, Texas 77305

Re: Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plans

Dear Mr. Evans:

Please find enclosed one (1) copy of the revised Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plans for the San Jacinto River Authority's Lake Conroe, GRP, Woodlands, and Highlands Divisions. San Jacinto River Authority's Board of Directors adopted the enclosed plans on April 25, 2024. These revisions have been completed to meet the regulatory requirement to update and submit the Plans to TCEQ and TWDB by May 1, 2024. Electronic versions of the Plans are available on San Jacinto River Authority's website at <http://www.sjra.net/about/wc-dcp/>.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (936) 588-3111 or mbarrett@sjra.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt Barrett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Matt Barrett, P.E.
Water Resources and Flood Management Division Manager
San Jacinto River Authority

Cc: Aubrey A. Spear, P.E.
Ed Shackelford, P.E.
Chris Meeks
Richard Tramm
Bret Raley

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