

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



ROBERTO R. ALONZO

District 104

March 8, 2005

The Honorable Lois Finkelman, Chair
Committee on Health, Environment, and Human Services
City of Dallas
1500 Marilla, S/E/N
Dallas, TX 75201-6390

Dear Chairwoman Finkelman and Members of the Dallas City Council:

I am writing to express some concerns regarding the proposed *Long Range Water Supply Plan* that you will be voting on Wednesday, March 9, 2005, to address future water supply issues in the area. While my sentiments here may relate specifically to the Marvin Nichols Reservoir, I generally would have concerns supporting any water plan that does not advocate water conservation practices and the strong utilization of currently available water supplies in existing reservoirs.

While I applaud your volunteer public service on our City Council, and the many tough decisions you have to make daily to improve the quality of life for all citizens, I am convinced that in this particular case, you must take a back seat and re-evaluate the decision you are about to make on this very important issue because of the detrimental environmental impact it may have on human life. I am concerned that you are about to approve a water plan and associated studies when it appears clear that our existing resources are not even close to being fully utilized. Reservoirs such as the Marvin Nichols Reservoir would inundate approximately 100,000 acres in East Texas, resulting in the environmental impacts, displacement of landowners, and costs of construction that have already been incurred in the past by other reservoirs constructed years ago. Instead, I would urge you to consider availing ourselves of existing reservoirs and implementing increased water conservation policies and water recycling efforts that will improve the quality of life for all citizens.

Once again, I urge you to reconsider your position, and take these concerns seriously. As a staunch supporter of individual property rights and diversified economic development, I am troubled by the thought of families losing property they have owned for generations, and the negative consequences that additional and unnecessary water reservoirs might have on all citizens in general, not only those in the immediate Dallas metroplex area. Thank you for your considering these concerns. Let me know if you would like to discuss this or any other important water or environmental issue in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roberto R. Alonzo".

Honorable Roberto R. Alonzo
Texas State Representative

RRA/jrb

cc: All Member of the Council

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