

The State of Texas
House of Representatives



Roy Blake, Jr.
DISTRICT 9

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March 4, 2005

The Honorable Laura Miller, Mayor, City of Dallas
Dallas City Hall
1500 Marilla
Dallas, Texas 75201

Dear Mayor Miller,

It has recently been brought to my attention that on March 9th you will be voting on Draft Long Range Water Supply Plan. I first want to thank you for the time and effort you have put into this project and for evaluating all of your possible sources.

As a member of the Land and Natural Resources committee I am apprehensive about your new plan because it includes the use of new reservoirs when there are many existing ones which are not being fully utilized. Proposed reservoirs such as Marvin Nichols and Fastrill could damage the environment and upset current landowners. I would encourage you to consider providing resources for additional conservation measures, rather than focusing on the study of new reservoirs that might not be needed.

The Region C Water Planning Group is currently studying over 1.5 million acre-feet per year of water as water management strategies for connection of existing supplies that are recommended as potentially feasible for the 2006 Region C Water Plan. These supplies listed as available to Region C include Lake Texoma "already authorized", Lake Texoma "not yet authorized", Lake Wright Patman, and a wide variety of other sources. My understanding is that these mentioned supplies could alone exceed the approximately 1.4 million acre-feet per year projected gap between the region's demand and supply in 2060.

Due to the tremendous loss of high-value bottomland hardwood ecosystems and the harm to individuals, agriculture, and the local economy when any new reservoir is built, I feel that new reservoirs should be considered only if existing resources are not available. I urge you to consider using existing developed water resources rather than considering new reservoirs. Thank you for your time in this matter and if I may be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roy Blake, Jr.".

Roy Blake, Jr.

COMMITTEES: LAND & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT • URBAN AFFAIRS • RULES & RESOLUTIONS