

Lower Rio Grande Valley Water District Managers' Association

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Via Electronic Submission WSI_grants@twdb.texas.gov

January 20, 2026

Ms. L'Oreal Stepney, Chairwoman
Texas Water Development Board
P.O. Box 13231
Austin, Texas 78711-3231

RE: Public Comment - Water Supply and Infrastructure Grants Implementation Plan

Dear Chairwoman Stepney:

The Lower Rio Grande Valley Water District Managers' Association (Association) would like to thank the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for the opportunity to provide public comment for this vital funding opportunity. Our Association represents approximately 76% of the total irrigation water rights issued in the Amistad/Falcon Reservoir System. Often times our members are also the sole source of raw water for this region's municipal water suppliers.

The continued lack of deliveries from Mexico through the six named Treaty Tributaries stipulated in the Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande (1944 Water Treaty), has resulted in a water supply shortage that has prolonged for several years. Reduced water availability results in lower revenue, creating a financial barrier for members looking to implement essential, long-term water conservation projects. Given this reality, we hope our comments assist the TWDB better understand how this funding opportunity can ensure our region continues to have a reliable source of water for generations to come.

Our Association offers the following comments:

- TWDB funds geared at expediting water needs along the border **not** be allocated for joint funding with the North American Development Bank's Water Resiliency Fund Program (WRF). It is our understanding the WRF will have a loan component, in which it would be fiscally irresponsible for an irrigation district to participate in when the district is generating little to no revenue based on water deliveries.
- Funds geared at expediting water needs along the border **not** be limited to canal lining and canal conversion projects. While we recognize the potential water savings associated with canal lining or canal conversion projects, there are other water conservation projects, such as critical infrastructure, a district could accomplish with this funding opportunity.

- An initial \$100,000,000 proposal for projects along the border with an opportunity to utilize the proposed \$131,000,000 currently unallocated to fund awarded applications above the initial \$100,000,000.

We thank TWDB for their proactive engagement during this public comment period.

Sincerely,



Dr. Antonio Uresti
President