

LCA Summary of the June 2024 Lake Conroe lowering,

Why it was the best example of water waste triggered by a rain event “false alarm” and by CMA political concerns and optics.

The LCA was recently informed our formal complaint filed with the TCEQ this July regarding June 2024 Lake Conroe lowering was ruled invalid.

The June 2024 5.5-inch lake level lowering resulted in 2.2 billion gallons of water physically wasted by the SJRA / CoH and was initiated using the 2024 Active Storm Management program (ASM). A copy of the LCA complaint and the TCEQ ruling is located on our website

The lack of effort by TCEQ to fully investigate the LCA complaint is frankly inexcusable. The LCA complaint claimed that the 2024 CoH water use report must be a false report as the June 2024 release was classified to be for municipal use. However, the lowering was clearly and publicly called for due to a rain event not a need for CoH water supplies. There is no physical pathway the Lake Conroe water volumes can take separately to the CoH water plant intake and apart from all the other water flowing through the Lake Houston dam gates and be used as reported by the CoH. The TCEQ fully ignored the fact that any water diverted from Lake Conroe (LC) to Lake Houston (LH) cannot be municipally used and instead is fully wasted whenever Lake Houston is full and discharging across the spillway / dam gates when the LC water arrives. Lake Houston must be in drought conditions not overflowing across the spill way and through the dam gates to capture and beneficially use any diversion volumes from Lake Conroe.

The recent actions and decisions by the TCEQ mean they will not fully investigate any claim of water permit violation or water waste if the paperwork submitted by either the SJRA or CoH allows the TCEQ to respond, “the paperwork as submitted is evidence of no violations”.

We believe our evidence and facts were sound but fully ignored by the TCEQ on the June 2024 prerelease lowering of Lake Conroe. Given our recent experience we cannot rely on TCEQ to enforce its own rules. We will ultimately address the TCEQ failures at a future time in a way that publicly reveals their failures and turning a blind eye to 46 billion gallons of water waste.