



September 15, 2025

To: San Jacinto River Authority

Aubrey Spears

General Manager

Address: P.O. Box 329

Conroe, Texas 77305

From: Kevin Lacy – President

Lake Conroe Association

P.O. Box 376 Willis, TX 77378

Aubrey,

I am sending this letter to clarify any misunderstanding about LCA's current and past position on an increased diversion rate. Having read the entirety of the July 17 application from the SJRA and CoH to amend the Certificate of Adjudication 10-4963 I can assure you myself and the LCA Board (and I believe many in the public) fully oppose the diversion increase request on the grounds that it indicates:

1. It is for beneficial use purposes (which is physically impossible)
2. It will result in a higher release rate of 2000 cfs (1.3 billion gallons per day) which is over 18 times more than the daily average water intake at CoH NEWPP (70 million gallons per day).
3. The current diversion rate of 700 cfs already provides 6 times the daily average water intake of the CoH NEWPP, making the increase unnecessary.
4. In full knowledge of the past public disputes regarding any diversions outside of drought needs the CoH and SJRA now seeks to make this increased diversion request outside of public review and meetings.

5. All past LCA support for a higher release rate during the 2022 and 2023 Lowering protocol compromises and the 2024 Active Storm Management meetings were predicated on the SJRA obtaining a technical study that supported flood mitigation prerelease, the SJRA and CoH would obtain TCEQ approval for diversions for flood mitigation based upon the study and well-defined emergency boundaries and definitions, and finally, no increased diversion unless a better near-term weather forecast system was utilized so the higher release rates would not create waste.

These boundaries were well communicated and documented and asking for an increased diversion rate without them in place is backwards from our previous priority recommendations.

Clearly the change in diversion rate is not needed as indicated in the SJRA / CoH filing for amending the Certificate of Adjudication 10-4963. The filing did not provide any data supporting the increased diversion rate, only a request for the increased rate. To request the increased diversion rate without making it clear to the TCEQ that the volumes coming from the higher rate is **far more than any CoH or SJRA daily need for water at Lake Houston for beneficial use is misleading and a material omission.**

Our concerns are while the SJRA's stated intent is to use the unneeded higher diversion rate for permitted water diversions the increased diversion rate will be used for flood mitigation prereleases at or below full pool which is in clear violation of the current water permit.

The 2018-2024 flood mitigation "diversions" at the present release rate of 700cfs have already resulted in approximately 50 billion gallons of water flowing to Lake Houston which went 100% unused in violation of the existing water permit. **As the LCA has shown it is physically impossible for any of this water to be utilized as reported by the City of Houston.** It cannot be sequestered for utilization before it is fully discharged across the Lake Houston spillway or through the dam gates. The LCA claims of waste have not been refuted or proven false in any written response or technical study provided by either the SJRA or the CoH.

Given the material omissions in your request of the TCEQ and that we have called this information and the omission to your attention, we request that the SJRA pull their application currently with the TCEQ. If the application is not declined by the TCEQ or pulled by the SJRA we respectfully request public hearings be held before any further TCEQ review given the long contentious history of lake lowering and in the interest in transparency.

Kevin lacy -

President – Lake Conroe Association

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