



May 21, 2008

Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District
Board of Directors
P.O. Box 1027
Smithville, TX 78957

Re: Desired Future Conditions of Aquifers in Bastrop and Lee Counties.

Dear Board of Directors:

This letter is to encourage the Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District's (LPGCD) to stand firm on its stated intention to maintain the aquifers in the District on a sustainable basis and that it link the desired future conditions of the aquifers to surface conditions such as spring flows and river system base flows. By making the link between groundwater and surface water conditions, the principle of "sound ecological environment" can be employed in such a manner as to establish legally defensible conditions that ensure that unacceptable environmental, economic, or social consequences are not experienced as a result of over-pumping these aquifers.

As indicated in Opportunity Bastrop County, which was adopted by the Commissioners Court in December 2007 and by the Smithville City Council in May 2008, the citizens of Bastrop County desire that the aquifers, including the Colorado River alluvium, be preserved and protected, and that the springs and riparian habitats be identified and protected.

Realizing that the LPGCD Board of Directors are under substantial pressure from the activities and positions of other entities within GMA-12 and the region, Environmental Stewardship offers to work with the Board and other local organizations to build public support for such actions as the District may have to take to fully protect the groundwaters under your jurisdiction for current and future generations.

Sincerely,
Environmental Stewardship

Steve Box
Executive Director

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