



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE
County Of Hidalgo

RAMON GARCIA
County Judge

December 10, 2013

Mr. Joe A. Barrera
Executive Director
Rio Grande Regional Water Authority
301 W. Railroad
Weslaco, TX 78596

RE: Letter of Support for the Strategic Water Management Plan

Dear: Mr. Barrera

Hidalgo County is pleased to offer our support of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Strategic Water Management Plan as initiated by the Rio Grande Regional Water Authority (RGRWA). Hidalgo County understands the importance of determining the most efficient methodologies to manage the water resources available to the Lower Rio Grande Valley and to reliably meet the future agricultural and municipal water demands from a regional perspective. The service area intended to receive benefits from this project are portions of Hidalgo, Willacy, and Cameron Counties which includes my jurisdiction. As presented, the components included in the study are agricultural conservation measures, reuse of treated wastewater, and Reverse Osmosis (RO) technology to treat brackish groundwater and sea water which may interface with some of the facilities planned by Hidalgo County.

We understand that the RGRWA, with Black & Veatch, is pursuing grant applications from the Texas Water Development Board and other funding agencies to offset some of the costs of this effort. Hidalgo County intends to support coordination efforts by providing information, staff involvement and executive leadership to help successfully complete and guide this project. I understand that additional supplementary funds to support the effort will be evaluated and quantified in the near future for consideration by all stakeholders.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this exciting and timely project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 956-318-2600.

Sincerely,

Ramon Garcia
County Judge