

State of Texas  
House of Representatives

CHAIRMAN  
ALLAN RITTER  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
TRACY O. KING

---

Committee on Natural Resources

---



MEMBERS  
MARVA BECK  
BRANDON CREIGHTON  
CHUCK HOPSON  
JAMES L. "JIM" KEFFER  
LYLE LARSON  
EDDIE LUCIO III  
TREY MARTINEZ FISCHER  
DOUG MILLER  
WALTER "FOUR" PRICE

AGENDA  
PUBLIC HEARING  
INTERIM CHARGE 1, INTERIM CHARGE 3, AND INTERIM CHARGE 4  
Thursday, March 22, 2012  
Room E2.010  
9:00 a.m.

- 
- I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL
- II. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR & MEMBERS
- III. INTERIM CHARGE 1: DROUGHT/STATE WATER PLANNING
- A. Panel One: Update on Drought/ Drought Management
- **John Nielsen-Gammon**, *Texas State Climatologist*  
Office of the State Climatologist
  - **Chuck Phinney**, *State Coordinator for Preparedness*  
Texas Division of Emergency Management
  - **L'Oreal Stephney**, *Deputy Director of the Office of Water*  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- B. Panel Two: Drought Impact
- **Drew DeBerry**, *Deputy Commissioner*  
Texas Department of Agriculture
  - **Michael Lemonds**, *Director for Commercial Leasing and Special Projects*  
Texas General Land Office
  - **Tom Currah**, *Senior Advisor and Data Analysis Director*  
Office of Texas Comptroller
- C. Panel Three: Drought Impact
- **Travis Miller**, *Extension Program Leader and Associate Department Head for Soil and Crop Sciences at Texas A&M University*  
Agrilife Extension Services
  - **Mitchell Harris**, *CEO of AgTexas Farm Credit Services in Lubbock, Texas*  
Texas Farm Credit
- D. Panel Four: Drought Impact
- **Russell Boening**, *State Director for District 12*  
Texas Farm Bureau
  - **Jay Evans**, *Vice-Chair of TSCRA Natural Resources and Environment Committee*  
Texas Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association
- E. Drought Impact: Other Stakeholders
- **Ken Kramer**, *Director of the Lone Star Chapter*  
Sierra Club

F. Panel Six: Management Plan

- **Becky Motal**, *General Manager*  
Lower Colorado River Authority
- **Robby Cook**, *Rice Farmer*  
Lakeside Irrigation District Water Management Advisory Committee  
Member

G. Texas State Water Plan 2012

- **Carolyn Brittin**, *Deputy Executive Administrator*  
Texas Water Development Board

IV. INTERIM CHARGE 3: DESALINATION

A. Panel One: State Agencies

- **Robert Mace**, *Deputy Executive Administrator*  
Texas Water Development Board
- **L'Oreal Stephney**, *Deputy Director of the Office of Water*  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

B. Panel Two: Desalination Technology, Benefits, and Challenges

- **Tom Pankratz**, *Editor*  
Water Desalination Report
- **Tyson Broad**, *Research Associate*  
Sierra Club

C. Panel Three: Desalination Technology, Benefits, and Challenges

- **Bill Norris**, *Principal*  
NRS
- **Michael Irlbeck**, *Director of Business Development*  
NRS and Abengoa Water
- **Les Lampe**, *Vice-President, Global Practice Leader for Water Resources*  
Black and Veatch

D. Panel Four: Current Desalination in Texas

- **Genoveva Gomez**, *Director of Water & Wastewater Engineering Operations*  
Brownsville Public Utilities
- **Hector Gonzales**, *Government Affairs Manager*  
El Paso Water Utility,

E. Panel Five: Exploring Desalination in Texas

- **Bill West**, *General Manager*  
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
- **Tim Finley**, *Water & Waste Water Technology Leader*  
The Dow Chemical Company

F. Panel Six: Exploring Desalination in Texas

- **Chuck Ahrens**, *Vice-President, Water Resources & Conservation*  
San Antonio Water Systems
- **Kirk Holland**, *General Manager*  
Barton Spring/ Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
- **Ken Rainwater**, *Project Administrator and Professor*  
City of Seminole/ Texas Tech University

**V. INTERIM CHARGE 4: AGRICULTURAL IRRIGATION CONSERVATION**

**A. Panel One: State Agencies**

- **Robert Mace**, *Deputy Executive Administrator*  
Texas Water Development Board
- **L'Oreal Stephney**, *Deputy Director of the Office of Water*  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

**B. Panel Two: Agriculture Irrigation Progress**

- **C.E. Williams**, *General Manager*  
Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District,
- **Wayne Halbert**, *General Manager*  
Harlingen Irrigation District,
- **Garry McCauley**, *Professor of Soil and Crop Services*  
Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, the Texas A&M University System

**C. Panel Three: Agriculture Irrigation Benefits and Challenges**

- **Laura Huffman**, *Director*  
The Nature Conservancy
- **Vivien Allen**, *Professor of Plant and Soil Sciences*  
Texas Tech University

**VI. CLOSING**

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**