## **Exhibit C**

## TCEQ Recommendation on a Groundwater Conservation District (GCD)

Hill Country Priority Groundwater Management Area (PGMA) in Western Comal and Southwestern
Travis Counties

- Aug. 12,2010 -Executive Director (ED) of TCEQ released report with a primary recommendation to form a GCD that includes the Hill Country PGMA areas of SW Travis County, western Comal County, and western Hays County
- Release of the report included the ED petitioning the TCEQ Commission for action to create the GCD
- The recommendation would require the replacement of the existing Hays-Trinity GCD with this new GCD spanning parts of three counties
- The recommendation is consistent with the resolutions submitted to TCEQ from the Commissioner Courts of Travis, Hays, and Comal counties
- The report describes other options to address the PGMA that were determined to be less feasible and practical
- The ED makes specific recommendations with regard the name, purpose, boundaries, board of directors, revenue source, and management of the new district:
  - o District would have the general authority identified in Chapter 36, TX Water Code
  - o Proposed to be named "Hill Country Trinity Aquifer GCD"
  - o Purpose would be to manage water of the Trinity Group Aquifer
  - o Five elected as permanent board of directors apportioned by county
  - o Temporary directors appointed initially with one appointment from Travis County
  - o An estimated generation of \$500,000 annually would fund the district from a tax rate of \$0.00206 per \$100 assessed valuation (\$2.06 per \$100,000 valuation)
  - TCEQ suggests a tax rate of \$0.003 to \$0.004 per \$100 assessed valuation may initially be needed for startup
  - o TCEQ estimates only \$41,123 can be generated from well production fees

## • GCD Creation Process

- ED of TCEQ petitions TCEQ Commission for action to create the GCD (Aug. 12,2010)
- State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) convenes preliminary hearing on TCEQ-ED recommendation (Oct. 28, 2010), naming parties and considering pre-trial matters
- Evidentiary hearing inclusive of the parties granted hearing status to present evidence, take testimony. Hearing must be concluded 75 days after notice of the hearing is published
- o SOAH proposal for decision considered by TCEQ Commission
- o If created, Travis County Commissioners will appoint one of the five temporary directors within 90 days
- o Within 120 days of temporary directors being qualified to serve, a confirmation election for the district and elected board of directors is held