



Tom Tagliabue

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The Honorable Brian Birdwell
Chairman Sunset Advisory Commission
P.O. Box 13066
Austin, Texas 78711


Dear Senator Birdwell,

I am writing to express the support of the City of Corpus Christi (City) for the Nueces River Authority (NRA). The City and the NRA have established a remarkable partnership in protecting the Nueces River watershed and ensuring water supply for industrial and residential customers while making significant efforts to ensure sustainable environmental protections for Coastal Bend communities within the NRA's 22-county territory.

Through regional water planning, water quality protection, public education, community outreach and proactive water resource development, the City and NRA are models of intergovernmental cooperation. The City agrees with all recommendations made by the Sunset Advisory Commission staff with one exception. The authority to appoint the Board Chair should remain with the gubernatorial appointees who by statute represent specific regions of the NRA's territory. The City believes the Board Chair selection will be more responsive and accountable to fellow board members from the regions they are appointed to represent.

The City looks forward to furthering its partnership with the NRA for the passage of the Sunset legislation. We appreciate the opportunity to comment and collaborate on this important legislation protecting this vital natural resource.

Sincerely,


Joe McComb
Mayor

cc: Ken Levine, Executive Director, Texas Sunset Advisory Commission
Con Mims, Executive Director, Nueces River Authority
The Honorable Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, State Senator, District 20
The Honorable Todd A. Hunter, State Representative, District 32
The Honorable Abel Herrero, State Representative, District 34