TIM KLEINSCHMIDT

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 17



State of Texas House of Representatives Austin

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The Honorable Rick Perry Chair Texas Bond Review Board P.O. Box 12428 Austin, TX 78711-2428

September 30, 2010

Dear Governor Perry:

Water is a precious resource, and one that the people of my largely agriculture-dependent district are right to be concerned about. Water is at issue in District 17 right now, and it is the reason I am writing to ask for your help.

The population of Bastrop County is growing, and their water needs are growing with them. As you know, the proposed GBRA Simsboro pipeline will ship water out of Bastrop and Lee Counties for use in Hays and Caldwell counties.

This proposal conflicts with the strategy of the Region L Water Planning Board, which oversees Bastrop and Lee Counties. Many of my constituents in Bastrop are concerned that should the pipeline be built, Bastrop will lose the water it depends on for its daily life and growth.

As a firm advocate for private property rights and limited government, I do not question the rights of the water supply participants to enter into a financial transaction. However, I am opposed to taxpayers' money, in the form of bonds, being used to fund these private transactions.

Given that you chair the Bond Review Board, I call upon you to intervene regarding the issuance of government bonds to fund the purchase of the water from Central Texas. These are supposed to be transactions between private water developers and private landowners exercising their rights. This project is not, in my opinion, something to be subsidized by taxpayers to benefit another group.

I welcome a discussion with you about these matters. I have asked my staff to follow up with you regarding an appointment. Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns.

Sincerely,

State Representative Tim Kleinschmidt, District 17