PMComanchePeakPEm Resource

From: Bill Rhodes [billrhodes@1scom.net]
Sent: Monday, September 06, 2010 10:15 AM
To: Comanche COLEIS Resource; brian@brianbirdwell.net; jim.keffer@house.state.tx.us; msympson@co.hood.tx.us; droan@co.hood.tx.us; lheathington@co.hood.tx.us; sfberry@co.hood.tx.us
Cc: tracirhodes@1scom.net
Subject: Oppose the use of water from Lake Granbury and the Brazos River Basin

To whom it may concern,

I few weeks ago I received the NRC 700 page environmental study concerning the Comanche Peak Expansion and its effects on Lake Granbury.
After reviewing the study I have come to the conclusion that the loss of this water to the Expansion will be devastating to the Brazos River Basin and Lake Granbury. Here are the most important critical issues regarding Lake Granbury that are stated in the study:

* The Comanche Peak Expansion would require 102,000 acre ft (33 billion gallons) from Lake Granbury for cooling purposes. 30-40% (13 billion gallons) would return to Lake Granbury with a net loss of 20 billion gallons. This amount would be equal to 60 million gallons of water LOST EVERY DAY.

* With the additions of Comanche Peak 3 and 4, Lake Granbury would be at full pool (level) only 46% of the time. The water level at Lake Granbury would also be 2 feet or MORE lower 25% of the time. The operations of units 3 and 4 would result in somewhat smaller releases from Lake Granbury and lower resulting water flow in the Brazos River near Glen Rose. (Sec 5-8)

* Consumptive water use for cooling 3 and 4 would cause lower lake levels at Possum Kingdom (PK) and Lake Granbury, and decreased flows in the Brazos River Basin below Lake Granbury. Elevations at PK would be 1.3 ft. LOWER on average, and elevations in Lake Granbury would be .4 ft LOWER due to 3 and 4 water consumption.
During extreme drought conditions, Lake Granbury would be 2.5 ft LOWER (than previous drought conditions without 3 and 4) and PK would be 12.6 ft Lower. (Sec 5-18)

Case in point: Last year on Lake Granbury the lake was 4 ft low because of drought conditions. With the additions of Comanche Peak 3 and 4 under those same conditions, the lake would actually be 6.5 ft lower. Some models are indicating that might actually be closer to 8 ft.

* Even without the Comanche Peak Expansion, future modeling of Lake Granbury for the next 50 years shows there will be an increase in demand from 85,138 acre ft/year to 107,302 acre ft/year(21% increase) due to population growth. The model also indicates that 25% of the lake will lose its volume in water due to sedimentation.
(Sec. 7-8)

How can we allow 60 million gallons of water EVERY DAY from Lake Granbury to disappear forever? As you can see from the study this would be devastating to the Brazos River Basin and Lake Granbury. This would have a horrible effect on the economy in Granbury,
tax revenues in Hood County, real estate sales and values in Granbury, future water needs for the community and a general sluggish population growth within the community

I would plead with you, Senator Birdwell, to **oppose the use of water from Lake Granbury and the Brazos River Basin** for the Comanche Peak Expansion and for the BRA, NRC, and Luminant to seek other water alternatives.

Best regards,
Bill Rhodes

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From: Bill Rhodes

Created By: billrhodes@1scom.net

Recipients:
"tracirhodes@1scom.net" <tracirhodes@1scom.net>
Tracking Status: None
"Comanche COLEIS Resource" <ComancheCOLEIS.Resource@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"brian@brianbirdwell.net" <brian@brianbirdwell.net>
Tracking Status: None
"jim.keffer@house.state.tx.us" <jim.keffer@house.state.tx.us>
Tracking Status: None
"msympson@co.hood.tx.us" <msympson@co.hood.tx.us>
Tracking Status: None
"droan@co.hood.tx.us" <droan@co.hood.tx.us>
Tracking Status: None
"lheathington@co.hood.tx.us" <lheathington@co.hood.tx.us>
Tracking Status: None
"sfberry@co.hood.tx.us" <sfberry@co.hood.tx.us>
Tracking Status: None

Post Office: billrhodesPC

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