



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

APR 27 2011

Kelly Holligan, Director
Water Quality Planning Division (MC-206)
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Dear Mr. Holligan:

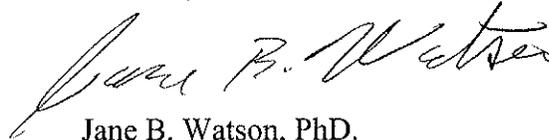
Thank you for submitting the revisions to the Lake Granbury Watershed Protection Plan (WPP). We are pleased to inform you that we concur with your assessment that the WPP satisfies EPA's requirements outlined in the 2004 National Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program Guidelines (national guidelines). We congratulate the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Brazos River Authority in developing and supporting the necessary partnerships to complete this plan and to begin efforts to protect water quality in Lake Granbury. We especially would like to congratulate Kerry Niemann of your staff, and Tiffany Morgan, of the Brazos River Authority, in their leadership and coordination in guiding this WPP to completion.

The WPP highlights a stakeholder process that engages numerous representatives and entities in the Lake Granbury watershed, including the city of Granbury. We are encouraged that stakeholders are considering several key options to address bacteria concerns in the coves, particularly those caused by malfunctioning and mismanaged septic systems. The potential to connect these communities surrounding the coves to wastewater treatment is encouraging to the long-term prospects of protecting water quality in Lake Granbury for generations to come.

It is crucial that the States and EPA work together to ensure that funds are targeted to maximize the likelihood of water quality improvements and restoration of nonpoint source impaired waterbodies. Elevated scrutiny of the NPS program and diminishing 319(h) resources increase accountability for both our agencies. As with other watershed-based plans, by accepting this plan as satisfying national guidelines, EPA is neither implying nor agreeing to commit future 319(h) funds for any or all portions of the plan. Any requests to implement portions of a watershed plan will be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the merits of the proposal consistent with national guidelines, NPS priorities and funding availability.

We wish the Lake Granbury partnership success in implementing this plan, and we look forward to working with you to develop and implement watershed-based plans to restore water quality in other priority watersheds in the State. If you have any questions please contact me, or have your staff contact Brad Lamb at (214) 665-6683, or lamb.brad@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jane B. Watson".

Jane B. Watson, PhD.
Associate Director
Ecosystems Protection Branch

cc: Kerry Niemann, TCEQ
Monica Harris, TCEQ