Office of the Mayor

CITY OF CONROE

Est. 1904

February 3, 2025

Mr. John Martin
Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District
P.O. Box 1407
Jasper, TX 75951

Dear Mr. Martin and Members of GMA 14:

My name is Duke W. Coon. I currently have the honor of serving as the Mayor of the City of Conroe, Texas. I am here today to comment on Agenda Item #10; the Discussion and possible action regarding non-voting advisory stakeholder committee(s). As the Mayor of Conroe, a major stakeholder and County Seat of Montgomery County, I am formally requesting that the GMA create a non-voting advisory stakeholder committee to ensure that all stakeholders have an equal voice in the long-term planning for groundwater in our Region. Currently, Harris County and other counties with no Groundwater Conservation Districts have significant input into the Desired Future Conditions of the GMA, which is not fair nor consistent with the intent of Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code. Forming a separate committee to include ALL non-voting stakeholders is the only viable way to give all interested parties the voice they deserve in the planning of our most vital resource.

It is important to note that Montgomery County constitutes almost 48% of the population of all 5 GMA's *combined*, yet Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District holds only one vote. If the members of the GMA do not vote to approve this new committee, Conroe hereby formally request the same seat at the table that the current non-voting members currently fill. As one of the fastest-growing cities in America over the past decade, Conroe deserves the same consideration others are being given to address our needs and concerns. The formation of this committee would give the City of Conroe that consideration.

I thank you for your time and urge you to approve the creation of the non-voting stakeholder committee.

Regards,

Duke W. Coon
Mayor
City of Conroe, Texas