



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JOHN P. CYRIER

DISTRICT 17

October 2, 2017

Board of Directors
c/o Gary Westbrook, General Manager
Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District
310 E. Avenue C
Milano, TX 76556

Re: Board Meeting, October 3, 2017

Dear Board Members:

We are writing to you on behalf of the constituents of our House Districts who are affected by the Post Oak Savannah GCD and who share the Simsboro Aquifer. We have been contacted by landowners about your amended October 3rd Board agenda, which they received September 28th. They question the agenda item dealing with an extension (amendment) of the Vista Ridge transport permit at the "request" of Vista Ridge. They have heard from relatives and friends in the Post Oak Savannah GCD who share the same concerns. Apparently, the District proposes to act Tuesday to extend the original term of the transport permit, which does not expire until 2034, without the benefit of a public hearing and with less than three business days' public notice.

As you know, Governor Abbott vetoed a bill passed in the 2017 legislative session that would have made renewal of some transport permits "automatic." The Governor's official veto statement expressed concern that the public not be denied a voice in such matters, to promote transparency in the permitting process and avoid hindering the District's ability to respond to changed circumstances in later years of a permit.

The Governor's view would encourage the Post Oak GCD to delay considering the Vista Ridge export permit now, seventeen years prior to its expiration, as an informal request without any official input from those who are most affected by your decisions. Nothing about that plan promotes your constituents' interests, and it is difficult to understand how delaying this matter and noticing it for public hearing a month from now prejudices the permittee 17 years in advance.

We urge the Board to defer to the public interest on a permit of this magnitude and significance to your constituents. The extension warrants full compliance with the district's rules in favor of the public interest, including adequate notice and public input at a formal hearing. Please postpone this matter and give your constituents at least a month to understand and speak to you about what is happening to their groundwater.

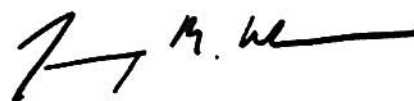
Respectfully,



Rep. John Cyrier
House District 17



Rep. Leighton Schubert
House District 13



Rep. Terry Wilson
House District 20