

Date:

The Honorable _____

Texas Senate

P.O. Box 12068

Austin, Texas 78711-2068

Dear Senator _____,

As your constituent, I am writing to express my serious concern about the threat that hydrogen production poses to our state's groundwater resources.

The electrolysis process used in hydrogen production permanently destroys water molecules, removing water from our hydrologic cycle forever. According to the Texas Hydrogen Production Policy Council, by 2050, hydrogen production from electrolysis plants in Texas could require between 92 to 173 million gallons of water per day. This massive water consumption would have irreversible impacts on our aquifers, especially in regions where groundwater is the only available water source.

The situation in West Texas is particularly concerning. The West Texas Regional Groundwater Alliance (WTRGA), representing 18 Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs) across four state senate districts and eight state house districts, reports that hydrogen producers are already moving forward with development plans in their jurisdictions. Meanwhile, many GCDs are already permitting water usage up to—and in some cases beyond—their Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) limits set by the Texas Water Development Board.

This puts GCDs in an impossible position. Under current law, they are required to issue permits for hydrogen production despite the potentially grave consequences for our limited water supplies. As the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD) notes, groundwater provides more than 60% of Texas' annual water supplies, and these resources are already being heavily utilized.

To protect our vital groundwater resources while still allowing for responsible energy development, I encourage you to please educate yourself with the efforts of groundwater conservation organizations, which include these potential legislative solutions:

1. Prohibit the use of fresh groundwater for hydrogen production and require alternative water sources, such as:

- Brackish groundwater not hydrologically connected to fresh groundwater**
- Seawater**
- Reuse water**
- Produced water**

2. Expressly exclude hydrogen production as an authorized beneficial use for groundwater in Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code.

3. Expressly include any process that destroys a water molecule for the purpose of hydrogen production in the definition of waste in Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code.

The WTRGA has also highlighted that exempting high-volume water users like hydrogen producers from GCD permitting requirements is detrimental to a GCD's ability to effectively manage local resources fairly and equitably. WTRGA members want to treat all water users fairly without additional exemptions being codified.

Additionally, while West Texas has plentiful produced water resources that could potentially be used for hydrogen production, the reality is that companies are still pursuing freshwater permits. The WTRGA encourages creative legislative initiatives to promote the use of produced water in applications like hydrogen production.

For more information, I encourage you to review these resources:

- Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD) White Paper:

<https://storage.googleapis.com/msgsndr/g2ghzWCiS7hZaANb0LDV/media/67cde576c6d47c6d1cd4b7b3.pdf>

- West Texas Regional Groundwater Alliance (WTRGA) Position Paper:

<https://storage.googleapis.com/msgsndr/g2ghzWCiS7hZaANb0LDV/media/67cde4c354acb414a3d956e2.pdf>

Water security is essential for our community's future. Please prioritize learning about how to protect our groundwater as you continue to educate yourself in energy policy.

Sincerely,

_____ **(Signature)**

_____ **(Printed Name)**

_____ **(Your Address)**

_____ **(City, TX Zip)**

Date:

The Honorable _____

Texas House of Representatives

P.O. Box 2910

Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Dear Representative _____,

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Sincerely,

_____ **(Signature)**

_____ **(Printed Name)**

_____ **(Your Address)**

_____ **(City, TX Zip)**

HOW TO TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT TEXAS GROUNDWATER

Step 1: Find Your Texas Legislators

- Texas Senate: <https://txdirectory.com/online/txsenate/>
- Texas House of Representatives: <https://txdirectory.com/>

Step 2: Print the Letter for Your Legislator

Choose the appropriate letter based on whether you're contacting your Senator or Representative.

Step 3: Fill Out the Letter

- Add the current date
- Fill in your Senator's or Representative's name
- Sign the letter
- Add your printed name and full address

Step 4: Mail Your Letter

For Texas Senators:

P.O. Box 12068

Austin, Texas 78711-2068

For Texas Representatives:

P.O. Box 2910

Austin, Texas 78768-2910

Step 5: Share This Information

Encourage friends and family who care about Texas water security to take similar action.