

Montgomery County WC&ID #1

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April 17, 2019

Mr. Jeff Walker
Executive Administrator
Texas Water Development Board
1700 North Congress Avenue
P.O. Box 13231
Austin, Texas 789711-3231

RE: Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Groundwater Management Plan

Dear Mr. Walker:

On behalf of Montgomery County Water Control and Improvement District Number 1 (MCWC&ID#1), I have been asked to share our concerns with the present lack of leadership shown by The Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District (LSGCD) in protecting and managing our finite Groundwater resources.

In 2010 LSGCD enacted a management plan which considers recharge and sustainable yield from our aquifers. Much planning and investigation went into the formation of the plan. After implementation we began to see benefits, we had not dreamed of. Our aquifers began to stabilize. We were no longer losing 10 to 20 feet of Static Level per year, the aquifers rebounded and stabilized. In 2018 they showed a reversal in loss and began creeping upward by 2 to 4 feet in static level. I have worked for WC&ID#1 since January of 1978. In this period, we have been forced to close and seal our Chico Well due to head loss and drill one (1) new Evangeline Well and two (2) Upper Jasper Wells as our existing Evangeline Well was not able to supply the districts existing demand due to aquifer head loss.

The closing of the Well was not as much due to growth as it was to water level decline. Our pumps in our two Evangeline, and two Jasper Wells have required the addition of column pipe and lowering of pumps on average every five years. This has cost our residents millions of dollars chasing an evasive target with no end in sight.

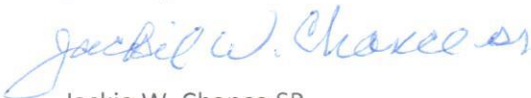
Now that we finally see a recovery, the LSGCD after legislative manipulation, tossed out a concerned and committed board of professionals and replaced it with directors who either don't understand the problem or in my own opinion choose to ignore it. They have proceeded to "throw out the baby with the bath water" in the misguided effort to lower the cost of water in the LSGCD management district. These districts should be managed by professionals who understand aquifer management, not TEA Parties.

Our Board of Directors and I are very concerned with the ramifications of developing plans by the LSGCD. We see a failure to lead, and a failure to protect the aquifers this district was incorporated to manage. If we are going back to the stone age, we see no reason to monetarily support an agency that is not willing to protect our water resources.

The DFCs that the new LSGCD board wishes to implement, do not meet the goals LSGCD was formed to achieve. The plan does not, in our opinion, comply with Chapter 36 of the Texas water code because it fails to achieve goals and objectives set out by our GMA for DFCs adopted in 2010.

MCWC&ID#1 is an affected person and as such, we request the TWDB reject the LSGCDs proposed management plan as it contains no goals or objectives consistent with DFCs of GMA 14 and will result in further mining of our aquifers and leave us chasing a vanishing water supply source this county depends on heavily for its continued prosperity. We further request that the 2010 management plan offered by LSGCD be continued until a reasonable expectation of sufficiency to comply with DFCs of GMA 14 is shown by LSGCD plan modifications.

Sincerely,

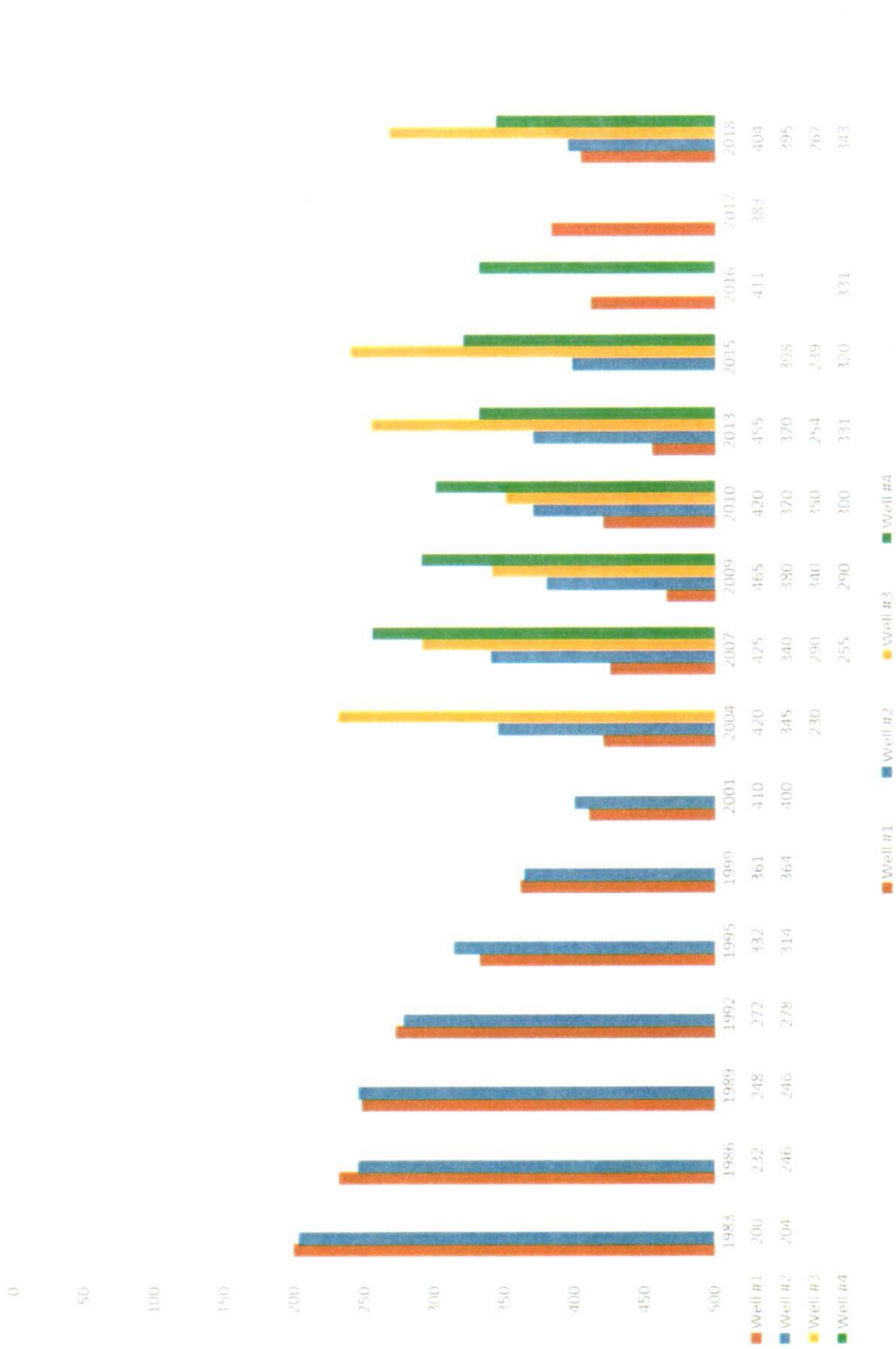


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Enclosure: Chart -Static Water Levels 1983-2018

Static Water Levels for Montgomery County WCID #1 - 1983 - 2018



Wells #1 & #2 – Evangeline Wells #3 & #4 – Jasper