February 26, 2001

Dr. Guy Fipps, PhD, P.E.
Professor and Extension Agricultural Engineer
Department of Agricultural Engineering
Texas A&M University
207B Scoates Hall
College Station, Texas 77843-2117

Dear Dr. Fipps:

This letter transmits a resolution of support of the board of directors of the Edwards Aquifer Authority for the concept of Texas A&M University establishing an Irrigation Technology Center in the San Antonio region. The board approved the resolution of support at their regular meeting held on February 20, 2001.

If you require additional information regarding this matter, please call Mr. John Hoyt, Program Manager – Aquifer Science, or me at (210) 222-2204.

Sincerely,

Gregory M. Ellis
General Manager

Attachment

GME:JRH/ns

Cc: Susan Hughes
Luana Buckner
RESOLUTION AND ORDER NO. 02-01-398

OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EDWARDS AQUIFER AUTHORITY SUPPORTING THE CONCEPT OF TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHING AN IRRIGATION TECHNOLOGY CENTER IN THE SAN ANTONIO REGION.

WHEREAS, the board of directors of the Authority supports initiatives designed to preserve, conserve and prevent the waste of Edwards Aquifer water consistent with the Edwards Aquifer Authority Act; and

WHEREAS, agricultural irrigation in Texas uses approximately 65 percent of the total freshwater consumed annually; and

WHEREAS, landscape irrigation accounts for approximately 20 – 40 percent of total municipal water use; and

WHEREAS, to conserve water supplies, irrigators must realize the full benefits of existing technologies, more efficient irrigation products, methods and management strategies must be developed and agricultural and landscape irrigators must be educated on there use; and

WHEREAS, the Irrigation Technology Center will test and certify whole irrigation systems and be able to develop design and performance standards under actual operating conditions; and,

WHEREAS, the board desires to inform the Texas A&M University System (Texas A&M) that it supports the concept of establishing a world class, state-of-the-art facility for irrigation-related education, testing, and applied research in the San Antonio region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EDWARDS AQUIFER AUTHORITY THAT:

Section 1. The board of directors supports the concept of Texas A&M University establishing an Irrigation Technology Center (ITC) in San Antonio region.

Section 2. The board of directors supports the vision of the ITC to establish a world class, state-of-the-art facility for education, testing, and applied research, to promote efficient irrigation, water conservation, profitable agricultural production, and quality urban landscapes.
Section 3. The board of directors supports the four primary missions of the ITC:
- Develop design and performance standards for agricultural and landscape irrigation systems.
- Establish an equipment testing and certification program.
- Provide training and educational services for irrigators, agency and industry personnel.
- Develop new and improved irrigation technologies, methods, and management practices.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EDWARDS AQUIFER AUTHORITY THIS 20TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2001

Michael D. Beldon
Chairman, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Carol G. Patterson
Secretary, Board of Directors

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Darcy A. Frownfelter
General Counsel