Statement for SAWS Board Re: Withdrawal of Applications for CCN    Feb.1,2011

I am here on behalf of the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance to speak in support of Item # 29 on today's agenda:

A Resolution directing System staff to submit Amendments to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to reduce the geographical area of five previously submitted applications to expand the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction boundary of the City of San Antonio.
(KELLEY NEUMANN – SAM MILLS - DWAYNE RATHBURN)

I thank you for this opportunity to address you on this important issue, and for the transparency of the process through which SAWS staff came to propose this resolution. All of us who initially opposed certain of the applications to expand SAWS CCN’s to encompass the entirety of San Antonio’s ETJ, including GEAA, the Helotes Heritage Association, the City of Grey Forest, the San Geronimo Valley Alliance, and the Hill Country Planning Association, feel that the action recommended by SAWS staff represents good public policy and will result in enhanced protection of our precious water resources.

We very much appreciate the many opportunities provided us to work with SAWS staff and members of the Board on this issue. These discussions were crucial informing this decision, and to arriving at a plan of action that we feel will serve the citizens of San Antonio well. I am happy to have had the opportunity to work with you on crafting this common sense solution, and hope that you will vote in favor of adopting this resolution today.

Again, thank you.