



WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

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July 24, 2006

Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2006-0141
Water Docket
Environmental Protection Agency
Mailcode 4203M
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW.
Washington, DC 20460

**RE: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Water Transfers
Proposed Rule (71 FR 32887); Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2006-0141**

The Water Environment Association of Texas (WEAT) submits the following comments on the NPDES Water Transfers Proposed Rule published in the *Federal Register* on June 7, 2006. WEAT is a professional association of engineers, environmental scientists and others who are involved in wastewater treatment and water quality management. We are a member association of the Water Environment Federation and we are dedicated to promoting scientifically sound environmental policy and regulations.

WEAT supports EPA's proposed amendment to Clean Water Act (CWA) regulations to expressly exclude water transfers from regulation under the NPDES permitting program. WEAT agrees with EPA's interpretation that Congress intended for water transfers to be subject to oversight by water resource management agencies and State non-NPDES authorities, rather than the permitting program under section 402 of the CWA.

EPA also requested comments on a provision allowing States to designate particular water transfers as subject to the NPDES program on a case-by-case basis. WEAT supports EPA's decision not to propose establishing this designation authority. The proposed rule clearly states that a water transfer not "adding" pollutants is regulated through other federal, state, or local agencies.

WEAT would like to thank EPA for the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at 512-924-2102 or carbat@beecreek.net.

Sincerely,

Carol Batterton
Executive Director