



*For Immediate Release*

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**AUTHORITY BOARD RATIFIES CONTRACT  
FOR SALE OF POSSUM KINGDOM LAKE PROPERTIES**

(Waco, TX) – July 29, 2009 – At its quarterly meeting, which took place on July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, the Brazos River Authority Board of Directors ratified and approved a contract for the sale of residential leased properties at Possum Kingdom Lake. The contract with Patterson PK Land Partnership, LTD (PPLP) allows the Authority to move forward with the divestiture of all residential and some commercial lease properties to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party purchaser.

Per House Bill 3031, which the legislature passed during the last legislative session, the Authority has 30 days to post notice of contract ratification and an anticipated date of closing on its website. The effective date of the contract is July 27, 2009. At the present time, the anticipated closing date is set for July 30, 2010, which is approximately one year from the effective date of the contract.

The posting of this notice is especially important for lessees that intend to purchase their individual leases simultaneously with the PPLP closing. Those lessees will have 90 days from the effective date of the contract to notify the Authority and PPLP of their intent to purchase their lot concurrently with the overall sale of the property. Those not wishing to close simultaneously will still be offered the full array of purchase and lease options contained in HB 3031 for a period of at least one year from closing.

In other major action involving Possum Kingdom Lake, the Authority Board voted to investigate and initiate the decommissioning of the Morris Sheppard Dam as a hydro electric generation facility. The move to decommission the plant would be of great benefit to current residential lessees by eliminating the 25 – 50 foot Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) required setback and allowing lessees to own their entire parcel to the lake's edge. Furthermore, the move would help lessees by eliminating the issue of encroachments into the buffer since the FERC prohibition against building improvements into the setback would no longer exist.

Should FERC choose not to allow decommissioning of the facility, the Authority Board passed an additional resolution providing a documentation process for leased properties with current FERC encroachments. Under this program, the Authority would notify the lessees of any encroachments on their lot into the setback area and would allow the lessee to provide documentation as to whether the encroachment was previously approved by FERC and/or the Authority. The Authority will then

present the completed listing of all such encroachments to FERC for approval. Until such time as the Authority receives FERC's response to the application, the Authority would allow current encroachments to remain in place for the most part. This application would be filed with FERC no later than January 2, 2012. This action will serve as a back-up should the efforts to decommission from FERC not be successful.

- 30 -

***About the Brazos River Authority***

The Brazos River Authority, with headquarters in Waco, is the oldest river authority in Texas. Created by the Texas Legislature in 1929, the Authority's 42,000 square-mile territory includes all or part of 70 counties; extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The Authority built, owns, and operates three reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, and Limestone). In addition to these water supply reservoirs, the Authority contracts with the Corps of Engineers for the water supply storage space at eight federal multi-purpose flood control and water conservation reservoirs (Lakes Whitney, Belton, Proctor, Somerville, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown and Aquilla).

The Brazos River Authority owns and operates a regional wastewater system for the cities of Temple-Belton. The Authority also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Georgetown, Dime Box, Clute-Richwood and Sugar Land. Through an alliance with the Lower Colorado River Authority, the Brazos River Authority operates wastewater treatment plants at Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System in Round Rock, the city of Hutto and the city of Liberty Hill.

The Authority owns and operates water treatment systems at Lake Granbury (which supplies potable water to wholesale customers in Hood and Johnson Counties), and the City of Taylor. The Authority also operates a potable water treatment plant for the City of Dime Box. A water treatment plant for the City of Leander is operated by the Brazos River Authority through an alliance with the Lower Colorado River Authority.

The Authority also engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River basin. As a member of the Texas Clean River Program, the Authority samples and tests water from 157 locations throughout the basin on either a monthly or quarterly basis.

For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Judi Pierce, Public Information Officer at 254-761-3103.