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RECENT RAINFALL RESULTS IN THE LIFT OF LAKE AQUILLA DROUGHT WATCH

April 1, 2009 – WACO, Texas – Due to recent rainfall in the Lake Aquilla watershed, the Brazos River Authority (BRA) terminated the lake's Stage 1 Drought Watch.

March's rainfall raised Lake Aquilla's elevation from 532.9 feet to 536.7 feet, which is more than 3 feet higher than the Stage 1 trigger level of 533.6 feet. Raising customer and public awareness of potential drought problems is the main goal of the Stage 1 Drought Watch, found in the BRA's Drought Contingency Plan. The plan includes three stages – Stage 1 – Drought Watch, Stage 2 – Drought Warning and Stage 3 – Drought Emergency.

Although the Stage 1 Watch has been lifted, the BRA will continue to monitor lake and water supply conditions and will initiate any watches or warnings as appropriate.

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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.