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## **LONE STAR GCD BOARD VOTES TO CONTINUE FIGHT OF INJECTION WELL EFFORTS BY SUPPORTING DENBURY, COUNTY**

For Immediate Release

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CONROE – The saga over a planned Creighton Road injection well operation took center stage today at the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District board of directors meeting.

By a vote of 8-0, the District board elected to work with other parties challenging the injection well permits issued to TexCom Gulf Disposal, LLC, instead of initiating its own legal challenge to the permitting decision.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality voted on January 26, 2011 to grant TexCom's permit requests. The action followed years of challenges by the District, the City of Conroe and Montgomery County, an aligned group of individual protesters, and more recently Denbury Onshore, to the TexCom applications.

Today's decision by the Lone Star District board would allow the District's legal team to play a supporting role in the challenges likely to come to the TCEQ action without filing a separate appeal. Lone Star board president Richard Tramm says that the choice represents a different approach than the District has taken in the past in its efforts to stop the planned injection operation, but it is one that the board determined would be most effective in securing its overall goal—stopping the planned TexCom operations.

“For anybody who paid close attention to the hearing [on the TexCom applications] last summer in Austin, the room became pretty crowded with protestant experts arguing different points that sometimes contradicted the arguments made by the other protestant experts,” said Tramm.

“When the administrative law judges issued their proposal denying the TexCom applications, they clearly found Denbury's arguments the most persuasive. We felt like filing our appeal, where we would likely be put in the position of again arguing points that differ from Denbury's case, might be counterproductive to the overall effort,” continued Tramm.

Jim Stinson, who serves as treasurer on the Lone Star board, stated that the decision by the board to continue its efforts against TexCom through a supporting role reflects its recognition that a successful outcome to the challenge will require a more unified approach.

“If we can help this effort by letting some of the other parties, particularly Denbury, take the lead with their technical arguments, then to me it is a very simple decision,” said Stinson. “What we cannot do is risk undermining the entire effort by crowding the field of challengers just for the sake of saying we were there.”

Parties have until March 17 to submit a motion to the TCEQ to reconsider its decision.