



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS TX 75202-2733

FEB 18 2015

Mr. Kyle Girten
Team Leader, Nonpoint Source Team
Office of Water
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Dear Mr. Girten:

We have completed our review of the *Upper San Antonio River Watershed Protection Plan (WPP)* submitted on December 18, 2014. Thank you for addressing our comments from previous reviews dated July 10, 2010 and March 26, 2014. We have determined that the WPP is consistent with the requirements of the 2014 National 319 Nonpoint Source Program (NPS) Guidelines (national guidelines) for watershed plan development. By this letter, we accept this plan as satisfying requirements specified in the national guidelines.

EPA appreciates the coordination of the San Antonio River Authority, Bexar Regional Watershed Management Partnership, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in the preparation of this WPP. We are hopeful that this WPP, in association with improvements to the City of San Antonio Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit (MS4) and the associated Storm Water Management Program, will lead to reductions in bacteria loadings necessary to meet attainment of water quality standards in the Upper San Antonio River.

Based on our acceptance of this WPP, the state is eligible for CWA Section 319(h) project funding within the Upper San Antonio River watershed, as defined in this WPP. The 319(h) funding eligibility is limited to those activities that address nonpoint source runoff (as defined by EPA national guidelines), and that are not required by the MS4 permit. EPA will consider these projects on a case by case basis, taking into account the estimated relative pollutant load reductions and potential improvements to water quality. If you have any questions regarding our review, please contact me at 214-665-6683.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brad Lamb".

Brad Lamb
Texas NPS Program Manager
Watershed Management Section

Cc: Bill Carter, TCEQ
Anthony Suttice, EPA