

PECAN GROVE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT  
c/o Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP  
3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600  
Houston, Texas 77027

July 1, 2008

The Honorable Nick Lampson  
House of Representatives  
United States Congress  
436 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

Attention:

Mini Timmaraju - [mini.timmaraju@mail.house.gov](mailto:mini.timmaraju@mail.house.gov)

Alastair Rami - [alastair.rami@mail.house.gov](mailto:alastair.rami@mail.house.gov)

Re: HR 3121

Dear Representative Lampson:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Pecan Grove Municipal Utility District, I am writing to inform you that we received a copy of your letter dated June 24, 2008, urging Chairmen Chris Dodd and Barney Frank to remove the Senate language in the pending National Flood Insurance Program ("NFIP") reauthorization legislation that requires mandatory NFIP participation for communities situated on floodplains behind levees, dams, and other manmade structures. We appreciate your efforts on behalf of the Fort Bend County communities located behind levees and we strongly encourage your continued efforts on this matter.

As you know, Section 107 of the engrossed Senate amendment to HR 3121, as currently written, will impact 50,000 property owners living behind the levees maintained by the 24 levee districts of Fort Bend County. All of the Fort Bend County levee districts have just completed a multi-year effort in which we spent almost \$45 million of our own local tax funds to bring our levees up to the FEMA certified 100-year flood elevation level. With the additional standards imposed by Fort Bend County, we have now achieved 250 year flood protection. This includes not only the levees themselves but pump stations that can remove 100% of the interior rainfall during a flood event and do so with electrical power that is completely independent of the public power grid. Despite all of our work to secure FEMA levee flood certification, Section 107 of the engrossed Senate amendment to HR 3121 could increase the mandatory

FEMA flood insurance premiums paid by the 50,000 property owners our districts protect 10 times more than what had been anticipated. That could mean an additional \$100,000,000 a year in FEMA flood insurance premiums just from Fort Bend County.

We strongly support reforms in the Federal Flood Insurance Program where those who chose to build in areas with the greatest risk pay a premium that is commensurate with that risk. However, as you have identified, it is very bad public policy to ignore the efforts of our levee districts that have spent tens of millions of dollars of our own money and have secured FEMA certification for our levees by requiring our hard-working citizens to subsidize the national program to the tune of \$100,000,000 a year.

We applaud your efforts and ask for your continued assistance in working with the conferees on HR 3121 to remove the mandatory NFIP participation requirement of Section 107 of the engrossed Senate amendment to HR 3121 or to make it clear that the Administrator must take into consideration the protection levels of levees when establishing flood insurance premiums under such mandatory participation requirement.

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to assist you in your efforts.

Sincerely,

Joe Taylor  
President, Board of Directors