

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 13, 2013

The Honorable Roberta S. Jacobson
Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W. Room 6262
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Assistant Secretary Jacobson:

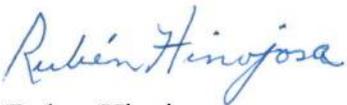
Thank you for taking the time out of your schedule to meet with us last week to discuss Mexico's failure to deliver sufficient water under the 1944 Water Treaty. We also appreciate the follow up meeting for Congressman Filemon Vela, Texas State Representative Eddie Lucio III, and Texas Commission of Environmental Quality Commissioner Carlos Rubinstein with Deputy Assistant Secretary Matt Rooney and Director of the Office of Mexican Affairs Kevin O'Reilly.

We have been informed that six of 27 irrigation districts in the Lower Rio Grande Valley have issued sixty-day notices that they could be out of water by June. Three more irrigation districts are expected to issue similar notices very soon. This means they will be unable to convey municipal water to 190,000 connections, or between 600,000 and 800,000 residents.

The United States has provided water to Mexico 17 separate times as a gesture of goodwill and at the expense of U.S. users, including 13 separate International Boundary and Water Commission Minutes to provide emergency water to Tijuana. To date, there has been no similar reciprocity from Mexico.

The situation in Texas is reaching critical proportions, and we respectfully request a response from you by March 22 on the actions that Mexico will take to deliver water to the United States under the 1944 Water Treaty. You know all too well the history related to this issue, so we appreciate your continued attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Ruben Hinojosa
Member of Congress



Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



Pete Gallego
Member of Congress



Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress