Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
12100 Park 35 Circle MC 203
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

May 15, 2006

Dear Stakeholder:

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has made available for public comment a draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for bacteria in the Oso Bay, located in Nueces County.

The TCEQ will conduct a public meeting to receive comments on a draft TMDL on **June 5, 2007, at 7:00 p.m., at the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Harte Research Institute, Conference Room 127, 6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas, 78412.** Your attendance at the public meeting and your comments are invited.

Individuals may present oral statements when called upon in order of registration. Open discussion will not occur during the meeting; however, a staff member will be available to discuss the matter 30 minutes prior to the meeting and will answer questions before and after the meeting.

Texas is required to develop TMDLs for impaired water bodies under Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act. A TMDL is a detailed water quality assessment that provides the scientific foundation to allocate pollutant loads in a certain body of water in order to restore and maintain designated uses.

The Commission requests comment on each of the six major components of the TMDL: problem definition, endpoint identification, source analysis, linkage between sources and receiving waters, margin of safety, and pollutant loading allocation. After the public comment period, TCEQ staff may revise the TMDL, if appropriate. The Commission will then consider the final TMDL for adoption. Upon adoption of the TMDL by the Commission, the final TMDL and a response to all comments will be made available on the TCEQ web site referenced below. The TMDL will then be submitted to EPA Region 6 for approval as an update to the State of Texas Water Quality Management Plan.

Written comments should be submitted to Larry Koenig, TCEQ Water Division, MC 203, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX, 78711-3087 or faxed to (512) 239-1414. All comments must be received by 5:00 p.m., June 15, 2007, and should reference, *One Total Maximum Daily Load for Bacteria in the Oso Bay, For Segment Number 2485.*

For further information regarding the draft TMDL, please contact Larry Koenig, Water Division, (512) 239-4533 or *lkoenig@tceq.state.tx.us*. A draft TMDL document can be obtained via the Commission's Web Site at: *http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/water/tmdl/tmdlcalendar.html*or by calling (512) 239-6682.

Sincerely,

Faith Hambleton

Faith Hambleton
TMDL Program Manager
Water Programs
Chief Engineer's Office

FH/bt

Enclosure

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
AND NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING
FOR ONE TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ or commission) has made available for public comment one draft total maximum daily load (TMDL) for bacteria in Oso Bay (Segment 2485) of the Nueces-Rio Grande Coastal Basin, located in Nueces County. The TCEQ will conduct a public meeting to receive comments on the draft TMDL. This announcement also constitutes notice that the TMDL will become part of the State Water Quality Management Plan upon approval by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Texas is required to develop TMDLs for impaired water bodies included in the state of Texas Clean Water Act, §303(d) list of impaired water bodies. A TMDL is a detailed water quality assessment that provides the scientific foundation to allocate pollutant loads in a certain body of water in order to restore and maintain designated uses.

The TCEQ will conduct a public meeting on the draft TMDL for bacteria in Oso Bay (Segment 2485). The purpose of the public meeting is to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the draft TMDL. The commission requests comment on each of the six major components of the TMDL: problem definition, endpoint identification, source analysis, linkage between sources and receiving waters, margin of safety, and pollutant loading allocation. After the public comment period, TCEQ staff may revise the TMDL, if appropriate. The final TMDL will then be considered by the commission for adoption. Upon adoption of the TMDL by the commission, the final TMDL and a response to all comments will be made available on the TCEQ Web site referenced below. The TMDL will then be submitted to EPA Region 6 for approval. Upon approval, the TMDL will be certified as an update to the State of Texas Water Quality Management Plan.

The public comment meeting will be held on **June 5, 2007, at 7:00 p.m., at the Texas A & M University-Corpus Christi, Harte Research Institute, 6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas, 78412.** At this meeting individuals have the opportunity to present oral statements when called upon in order of registration. There will be no agenda or presentations given, open discussion will not occur during the meeting. However, an agency staff member will be available to discuss the matter 30 minutes prior to the meeting and will answer questions before and after all public comments have been received.

Written comments should be submitted to Larry Koenig, TCEQ Water Programs Division, MC 203, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX, 78711-3087 or faxed to (512) 239-1414. All comments must be received by **5:00 p.m., June 15, 2007**, and should reference, ***One Total Maximum Daily Load for Bacteria in Oso Bay, For Segment Number 2485.*** For further information regarding the draft TMDL, please contact Larry Koenig, Water Programs Division, at (512) 239-4533 or *lkoenig@tceq.state.tx.us*. Copies of the draft TMDL document will be available and can be obtained via the commission's Web site at: *http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/water/tmdl/tmdlcalendar.html* or by calling (512) 239-6682.

Persons with disabilities who have special communication or other accommodation needs who are planning to attend the meeting should contact the Commission at (512) 239-6682. Requests should be made as far in advance as possible.