



**Statement from Patrick Cox, Ph.D.
TESPA Executive Director
October 12, 2020**

The Dripping Springs Water Supply Corporation (DSWSC) has set a special meeting to consider a contract to purchase water from Electro Purification Corporation (EP). Prior to taking any consideration and action, this Board should fully consider the negative impacts that the EP water project poses to Hays County and its residents. EP's request to pump over 900 million gallons per year is being challenged by Hays County and TESPAs—on behalf of its hundreds of Hays County members. Significant scientific evidence will be offered at a contested hearing in April 2021 that demonstrates EP's proposed well field will result in a major decline of the Trinity Aquifer.

EP's proposed well field is located in an area where hundreds of domestic wells provide the sole source of water supply to homes and businesses in the area. It is premature and irresponsible for the DSWSC Board to consider supporting such a massive withdrawal of groundwater that threatens to dry up dozens of nearby water wells and jeopardizes the groundwater flowing into Jacob's Well that is critical for its survival.

TESPA and Hays County residents are working with our local and state officials to protect and conserve our groundwater resources. We understand that we are facing tremendous growth and increased demand on our groundwater resources. We support ongoing scientific research to better understand our groundwater and aquifers. We recommend a coordinated effort between all public and private entities on this vital issue. Our goal is to achieve a sustainable plan for protecting our irreplaceable groundwater and aquifers that are essential to all.

The DSWSC meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 12th at 12:00 p.m. at their offices at 101 Hays Street, Suite 416, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620.