

CAPITAL REGION
LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION

February 14, 2012

Scott Angelle
Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
State of Louisiana

SENT VIA EMAIL

Dear Secretary Angelle:

We are writing on behalf of the entire Capital Region Legislative Delegation to urge and request that your department schedule a hearing regarding the possible affects of salt water intrusion on EBR drinking water.

Our delegation has been briefed on salt water intrusion into the aquifer under East Baton Rouge Parish and the subsequent loss of natural fresh drinking water that our residents have long enjoyed. In the fall, the EBR Metro Council requested Commissioner James Welsh to schedule a hearing on this issue; however, that request has not been satisfied.

Now, we are writing to request your assistance in having your department conduct a hearing to determine if the water table under the parish is being lowered because of excessive pumping of groundwater and whether the lowering of the water table is causing the acceleration of the intrusion of salt water from south of the Baton Rouge Fault into the fresh water north of the Fault, thereby rapidly moving toward the fresh water well supplying the people of EBR with drinking water.

We look forward to hearing back from you soon on this issue regarding a scheduled hearing date and/or scheduling time to brief the delegation on the topic.

Sincerely,
Representative Steve Carter, Chairman
Senator Dale Erdey, Vice Chairman

cc: Senators Amedee, Broome, Brown, Claitor, Dorsey, Riser, Ward, White; Representatives Barrow, Berthelot, Edwards, Foil, Greene, Havard, Hodges, Honore, James, Lambert, Mack, Ponti, Pope, Price, Richardson, P. Smith, Schexnayder, St Germain, Thibaut, A. Williams