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Richard A. Hyde, P.E., *Executive Director*



TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution

May 16, 2014

Ms. Cynthia K. Dohner
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1875 Century Boulevard
Atlanta, Georgia 30345

Dear Ms. Dohner:

Thank you for inviting the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to serve as a cooperating agency in the development of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for early restoration (Early Restoration PEIS) related to the *Deepwater Horizon* (DWH) oil spill.

The TCEQ accepts this invitation. We also confirm that our role and assistance in this regard began when the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) initiated the effort to develop the PEIS on behalf of the *Deepwater Horizon* Trustee Council based on DOI's verbal invitation at that time. As both a Trustee Council member and National Environmental Policy Act cooperating agency (40 CFR 1508.5), TCEQ will participate in the development of the Early Restoration PEIS; provide information and prepare analyses per its special expertise and jurisdictional responsibilities; review preliminary documents and provide comments to the lead agency; and make staff available to support interdisciplinary capability; and participate in public review processes.

Please consider Richard Seiler the primary point of contact for this agency. Mr. Seiler can be reached at (512) 239-2523 and by email at richard.seiler@tceq.texas.gov.

We look forward to continued cooperation with the Department of the Interior on this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard A. Hyde".

Richard A. Hyde, P.E.
Executive Director

RH/RS/cw

cc: Jane Atwood, Office of the Attorney General of Texas
Don Pitts, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Jane Sarosdy, Texas General Land Office