

Protect Lake Travis Association

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March 30, 2011

Mr. Jim Richardson
Lower Colorado River Authority
PO Box 220
Austin, TX 78767

VIA EMAIL

Re: Floating Habitable Structures on Lake Travis

Dear Mr. Richardson;

Protect Lake Travis Association is in full support of the current moratorium on “floating habitable structures” as described in LCRA’s draft definition. We share concerns expressed by LCRA staff and others that such structures pose potential water safety and water quality problems for the Highland Lakes.

PLTA’s focus is on Lake Travis, and principally on water quality. Our board is in opposition to allowing these floating habitable structures on Lake Travis primarily because of the potential impact of spills or leakage of raw sewage and other pollutants. This could occur anytime, but the potential would be particularly high during a flood or storm event.

We strongly recommend prohibition, not just regulation of these structures. Inspections, permitting and ongoing enforcement of regulations would be much too problematic for LCRA and other authorities. LCRA relies on complaints (as do other regulating bodies) to aid enforcement of regulations – but the public could not be expected to detect sewage leaks and spills from these structures, and if damage occurred during a flood or storm event it would be too late to prevent it.

PLTA looks forward to participating in the discussion during your upcoming public meetings. If some kind of regulations are proposed, we would hope to see the draft of any such regulations in time to comment effectively.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Lonnie Moore, President