



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

**EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE TEXAS AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER**

THE HONORABLE SID MILLER

ISSUED ON OCTOBER 17, 2024

WHEREAS, the 76th Texas Legislature has issued formal legislative findings recognizing the importance of agriculture to the State of Texas, as codified in Texas Agriculture Code, Section 2.002;

WHEREAS, the legislature has found agriculture to play a critical role in this state's economic, cultural and historical development; to serve as a vital component of the state's diversified economy; and to renew the state's natural resources;

WHEREAS, the legislature has acknowledged the state has an interest in agriculture remaining a vital force and, to that end, a state agriculture policy should be developed to guide governmental actions;

WHEREAS, the legislature has further enacted in statute that the agricultural policy of this state, among other considerations, shall address water availability issues to ensure use of water for agricultural purposes is assigned the highest priority and promote efficient use of water resources to sustain long-term productivity;

WHEREAS, under the direction of the Texas Agriculture Commissioner, the Texas Department of Agriculture is responsible for development of the state agriculture policy, as well as exercising related powers and performing duties assigned to the department by state and other applicable law;

WHEREAS, under the direction of the Texas Agriculture Commissioner, the Texas Department of Agriculture is charged with the duty of encouraging the state's proper and orderly development

and promotion of agriculture, horticulture, and other industries that grow, process, or produce products in this state;

AS OF THIS DATE, BE IT DECREED, UNDER MY HAND, BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE TEXAS AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER AND BY THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS, AS FOLLOWS:

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, agriculture producers and irrigation districts are hereby authorized to use water from the Rio Grande;

This use of water is critical for agricultural purposes;

This use of water is consistent with the agricultural policy of the State of Texas; and

This use of water is in the best interests of the State of Texas and in effectuating the will of the Texas Legislature.

This order is consistent with the powers and duties conferred on the Office of Texas Agriculture Commissioner and the Texas Department of Agriculture.

BE IT SO ORDERED UPON THE DATE OF MY SIGNATURE BELOW.

BY:  _____

SID MILLER

TEXAS AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER

DATE: **OCTOBER 17, 2024**