

# Texas House of Representatives



## EDDIE LUCIO III

DISTRICT 38  
CAMERON COUNTY

March 7, 2013

The Honorable Trey Martinez Fischer  
Chairman, Mexican American Legislative Caucus  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, TX 78768

Dear Chairman Martinez Fischer:

As a member of the Mexican American Legislative Caucus (MALC) and state representative for the Lower Rio Grande Valley, I am concerned with Mexico's growing water debt to the United States. My constituents in the minority-dominated Valley are worried they will not be able to collect on water that is rightfully theirs in this time of drought. Water is essential to Valley growth and prosperity as we forge our way to a prosperous future.

To date, Mexico owes the United States in excess of 410,000 acre-feet of water in the current five-year cycle which began in 2010. That is enough to supply Texas cities along the mid and lower Rio Grande River for a year and a half. While we have communicated our concerns to the US and Mexican sections of the IBWC, we have yet to be provided with any plan by which Mexico intends to address this deficit.

I am requesting MALC support for my trip to Washington DC on Monday March 11, 2013. TCEQ Commissioner Carlos Rubinstein, Congressman Filemon Vela, and I are meeting with officials from the Department of State to express our concerns with the deficit and are asking the Department of State to do everything in its power to compel Mexico to abide by the treaty between allies. I would greatly appreciate anything my fellow MALC members could do to aid the Valley region in this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eddie Lucio III".

Eddie Lucio III  
State Representative