Within 50 years, the region served by the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) will be home to about 3.6 million people, more than doubling the current population. In anticipation of the impending growth, the NTMWD is pursuing several strategies to help water supplies keep pace with the region’s increasing demands. Water conservation efforts and expansions to the water reuse programs are already underway, but additional sources are still needed to meet rising demand. The Lower Bois d’Arc Creek Reservoir (Reservoir) is one of these new sources.

"Many of our customers have asked about our plans to secure additional water supplies to keep up with the growth in the NTMWD region.” states Tom Kula, NTMWD Executive Director. “There are long-term water plans in place for meeting future water demands. As the region’s water requirements have been met with 110% growth over the past 20 years, the future needs will be met with improved conservation and a variety of recommended water supplies.”

The Reservoir and additional water supply strategies have been identified in the NTMWD water plan as part of the State’s 2012 Water Plan. Construction of the Reservoir is tentatively scheduled for completion by 2020. The permitting process for the Reservoir is very thorough and lengthy, requiring detailed studies for environmental impacts, stream flow impacts, legal issues and other considerations.

The Reservoir’s primary purpose is to provide water for the NTMWD Member Cities and Customers and provide recreational opportunities like fishing and boating.

NTMWD will plan, finance, build and operate the Reservoir coordinating with local, state and federal authorities, including the City of Bonham, Fannin County, Texas Water Development Board, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Parks and Wildlife and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, among others. Although land acquisition, permitting, funding, environmental impacts and mitigation will conform to the standards and guidelines set by these organizations, NTMWD will solely own and operate the Reservoir. The Reservoir will have a surface area of 16,526 acres; have a storage capacity of 367,609 acre-feet; and will yield 113 million gallons per day; and will not be for flood control. In comparison, Lavon Lake has a surface area of 21,400; a storage capacity 380,000 acre-feet; and will yield 105.9 million gallons per day; and is used for flood control by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
Water conservation, the efficient use of our current available supplies, plays an important role in meeting the permitting requirements for new reservoirs. The NTMWD is working with its Member Cities and Customers to ensure that the partnership meets or exceeds all the permitting requirements for this vital project to meet the NTMWD’s future water needs. The NTMWD currently serves a 2,200 square-mile area located in nine counties, including all the territory of its Member Cities, viz.: Allen, Farmersville, Forney, Frisco, Garland, McKinney, Mesquite, Plano, Princeton, Richardson, Rockwall, Royse City and Wylie.

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