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## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

## DEC 1 4 2012

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Mr. Kenneth Banks Director of Environmental Services and Sustainability City of Denton, Texas 76201

REFERENCE: Close-out of Project XL for the Pilot Pretreatment Program of the City of Denton

Dear Mr. Banks:

I am writing with regard to the final close-out of the environmental innovation project for the City of Denton, Texas through an EPA pilot program called Project XL (<a href="http://www.epa.gov/projectxl/file2.htm">http://www.epa.gov/projectxl/file2.htm</a>). Thank you for forwarding a copy of the 2010 Project Report.

Project XL ('eXellence in Leadership') was an EPA national pilot innovation program that allowed state and local governments, businesses and federal facilities to develop innovative strategies with EPA to test better or more cost-effective ways of achieving environmental and public health protection. In exchange, EPA issued regulatory, program, policy, or procedural flexibility to conduct the experiment. EPA discontinued accepting new projects under Project XL in 2002 and is now in the process of completing documentation to close the records for individual projects. Thank you for forwarding a copy of your 2010 final project report.

On February 22, 2000, the City of Denton, the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (now the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) and EPA were joint signatories to a Final Project Agreement for an innovative pilot project. The expected benefits of the project were to create an extensive watershed monitoring network, develop a buffer zone protection strategy as a component of the local development code, temporarily increase watershed reclamation facility, and increase public education with regard to water quality issues.

The outcomes of these projects were described in a 2010 report issued by the City of Denton. This report appears on EPA's website (<a href="http://www.epa.gov/projects.htm">http://www.epa.gov/projects.htm</a>).

By this letter, we are completing the official documentation for the pilot project conducted by the City of Denton under Project XL. We would like to thank representatives of the city, the state, and others who worked hard on developing and implementing the project. Much has been learned from these projects through those efforts.

If we can provide you with any additional information on Project XL, please feel free to contact Gerald Filbin at EPA Headquarters Office of Policy (202-566-2182).

Sincerely yours,

George Wyeth, Acting Director

Office of Strategic Environmental Management

cc: Adele Cardinas, Region 6 Les Trobman, TCEQ Gerald Filbin, OSEM