

Enclosure 6: The Long-Term Permanent Solution.

While the "short-term" solution has been in place and operational for several months, it has also been our goal to develop a "long-term" permanent solution to help assure that the potential for future flooding is eliminated. To that end, a Texas Township Taskforce committee has been established to develop such a plan, drawing its members from the original (and ongoing) task force. A plan has been developed which will utilize a gravity fed system rather than requiring pumps. Because the flow rate will be much lower once the "short-term" solution has brought the lakes back down to a more normal level, a horizontal well system of introducing the water into the drainage pipes will eliminate the need for pumps and filtration equipment. Efforts are currently being made to secure the required easements.

The process of establishing a legal lake level has begun with the initiation of the required petition drive to bring the matter to the County Board for action. Once the petitions are secured and the County Board approves, the proposed solution moves to the Drain Office. The Drain Office will then commence a study to determine a proposed legal lake level, and provide the outline of the special assessment district to provide funding. This study will then be presented to the Court for hearings and a determination. If the judgment of the Court is affirmative, the Drain Office would then assume responsibility for project implementation. Even the best timeline projections anticipate that it will be at least two more years until the "long-term" system could be operational.