

December 10, 2008

Alamo Area Council of Governments  
Air Improvement Resources Executive and Advisory Committees

***Statement of Support for the Golf Course Environmental Management Initiative***

To Members of the Air Improvement Resources Executive and Advisory Committees,

My name is Elena Serna, and I am speaking on behalf of Annalisa Peace and the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance, a coalition of concerned individuals and citizen groups from throughout San Antonio and Central Texas, working together to preserve the Edwards Aquifer.

Member groups of the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance endorse the following precepts regarding protection of the aquifer that are pertinent to the Golf Course Environmental Management Initiative:

- The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance believes that water is necessary to life and must be conserved, reclaimed, and protected for all future generations. It is a fundamental human right and a public trust to be guarded by all levels of government.
- Due to its faulted and karstic limestone geology, the Edwards Aquifer is particularly vulnerable to pollution. Therefore, the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance enthusiastically supports the Golf Course Environmental Management Initiative's goal of protecting our drinking water through proper management of storm water runoff and appropriate handling, storage, and use of harmful manmade products.
- The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance recognizes that population growth, expanding water demands, and suburban sprawl can irreversibly deplete our uniquely valuable and irreplaceable water source; therefore, we support any action taken to enact more sustainable golf course operations and development.

In summary, the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance fully supports the Golf Course Environmental Management Initiative's goal of implementing a sustainable process that minimizes or eliminates the negative impacts on natural resources that result from golf course management practices. We urge you to endorse and promote this initiative to your communities' private and public golf course constituents.

Thank you,

Elena Serna  
Special Projects Coordinator

Annalisa Peace  
Executive Director