HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

COMMITTEE: Natural Resources TIME & DATE: 9:00 AM, Thursday, March 22, 2012 PLACE: E2.010 CHAIR: Rep. Allan Ritter

Committee will meet to discuss the following:

Interim Charge Number 1 relating to the ongoing statewide drought and the performance of state, regional and local entities in addressing it. Examine the impact of the drought on the state water plan, including an evaluation of how well the state's existing water resources can meet demand, the need for additional funding sources to implement the plan, and the effectiveness of current drought planning and drought management policies. Identify short-term and long-term strategies to help the state better cope with drought and assess any obstacles, including state and federal regulations, to implementation of these strategies.

Interim Charge Number 3 relating to the status of desalination projects in Texas. Include an evaluation of the regulation of brackish groundwater and whether opportunities exist to facilitate better utilization of this groundwater to meet future needs.

Interim Charge Number 4 relating to ways to water conservation in agricultural irrigation.

The Committee will hear invited testimony only.

The Agenda will be available at the hearing.