

## **Guiding Principles – 1<sup>st</sup> Draft – Nov 15, 2004**

*In selecting the water quality protection measures contained in the Plan, and in making decisions about who should shoulder the burden of implementing these measures, we will adhere to the following GUIDING PRINCIPLES:*

- 1. The economy and environment of this unique part of Texas depend upon the preservation, conservation and management of dependable supplies of clean water. We all recognize the unacceptable consequences that would result if we take no action to protect our water.*
- 2. Both private individuals and the Public have a responsibility to respect the legitimate interests of others and to do no harm in their activities.*
- 3. Those who benefit from an activity must bear the responsibility for the costs and impacts of that activity.*
- 4. We will favor measures which, all else being equal, minimize the risk of failure or of damage to the watershed.*
- 5. The water quality protection measures we recommend will strive to balance Government regulations with appropriate economic incentives.*
- 6. The regulatory measures we recommend must provide as much certainty as possible, while discouraging exemptions and exceptions.*
- 7. We will make all our decisions being mindful of the economic impact of the measures recommended and strive to achieve a fair and reasonable balance among the various interests.*
- 8. We will not permit any party or group in this process to have undue or unfair control over the outcome.*