



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
UNITED STATES SECTION

For immediate release
September 30, 2005

MEXICO PAYS RIO GRANDE WATER DEFICIT

Mexico has fulfilled its commitment to eliminate its deficit in Rio Grande water deliveries to the United States, the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico (IBWC), announced today.

Under the 1944 Water Treaty, Mexico is to deliver to the United States an annual average of 350,000 acre-feet in the Rio Grande basin in cycles of five years. Starting with the 1992-1997 five-year cycle and continuing into the 1997-2002 cycle, Mexico accumulated an unprecedented deficit in its treaty deliveries, which has finally been eliminated.

In March, the two countries reached agreement for Mexico to eliminate its water deficit by September 30, 2005. The deficit stood at 716,670 acre-feet on October 1, 2004. Since then, Mexico has delivered sufficient volumes of water to pay off the deficit in its entirety.

“I am pleased that this issue has been resolved,” said Carlos Marin, Acting United States Commissioner of the IBWC. “Settling the water debt has been a high priority and I know that Texas users are glad finally to have the water.”

For more information:

Sally Spener
915-832-4175

The Commons, Building C, Suite 310 • 4171 N. Mesa Street • El Paso, Texas 79902
(915) 832-4100 • (FAX) (915) 832-4190 • <http://www.ibwc.state.gov>