

Dr. Shirley Neeley
Commissioner of Education
Texas Education Agency
William B. Travis Building
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701-1494

Dear Commissioner Neeley:

On July 7, 2006, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) submitted its revised State highly qualified teacher (HQT) plan. The peer reviewers found deficiencies in the original plan, and the Department asked that it be revised and re-submitted. We received the revision on September 29, 2006.

A Department of Education internal peer review committee reviewed revised plan. The reviewers were pleased with the plan. Department Program Officer Miriam Lund discussed the results of the peer review with Cory Green on November 6, 2006 and determined that no further revisions were required.

In the judgment of the Department, the plan submitted on September 29, 2006 meets all six requirements and is now approved. I would like to congratulate you and your staff for this excellent work. We recognize the substantial challenge it has been to prepare this plan, and we are encouraged that you were able to submit a complete and comprehensive plan.

We will post the September 29, 2006 revision of the plan on the Department's Web site in place of the plan that is currently posted. We look forward to our continued work together, including routine monitoring to ensure that your State implements the activities described in the plan to meet the HQT goal in 2006-07 and beyond, for the benefit of all students in Texas. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Robert Stonehill (202-260-9737, or robert.stonehill@ed.gov), or Miriam Lund (202-401-2871, or miriam.lund@ed.gov).

Sincerely,

Henry L. Johnson
Assistant Secretary