

**CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI  
CORPUS CHRISTI WATER**

**TO:** Peter Zanoni, City Manager  
**FROM:** Nicholas Winkelmann, P.E., Chief Operating Officer  
**COPY:** Mayor & City Council  
**DATE:** April 3, 2026  
**SUBJECT: WATER SUPPLY UPDATE**



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*Please note that no water supply update will be issued on April 10, 2026. The next memo will be prepared and distributed on April 17, 2026.*

Corpus Christi Water (CCW) continues to advance multiple water projects to add new sources and diversify the water supply portfolio. The strategic goal is to develop a diversified water supply portfolio comprising groundwater, wastewater reuse, seawater, and surface water.

**Groundwater**

Evangeline Groundwater Project

Pape Dawson Engineers and Garney Construction continue making significant progress on the project. The documents and plan set for 60% engineering design are complete, and staff will hold a full review meeting with Pape Dawson next week. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) permit applications for Well Nos. 9-14 have been submitted and approved. The next well applications are expected to be submitted to TCEQ by the end of April. A letter of agreement was provided to AEP this week regarding the electrical infrastructure agreements. AEP has been accommodating to meet the required delivery schedule.

Deliveries of 36-inch and 48-inch High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipes continue to arrive at the site, with approximately 90% of the 30 miles of pipeline material delivered by the end of July. Crews are expected to mobilize in mid-April to begin road construction and pump station foundation work. It is also planned for crews to begin pipeline installation in the first week of May. Garney is also expected to mobilize construction trailers and start on-site work mid- to late April.

The team continues to work on improving schedules and adjusting phasing to ensure partial water delivery by November 2026. The approval of Amendment 2 for Garney allows Pape Dawson and Garney to transition the implementation plan to focus on pipeline installation, MRP connection, ground storage tank, and pump house construction at the start of the construction cycle. As planned in the original construction amendment, the third amendment for Garney construction will be

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presented to Council for consideration in May. The team remains committed to achieving partial delivery in November 2026, with an estimated production of 4 MGD.

The total expenditure for this project to date, including professional services, construction services, legal, and administration, is \$10,725,834.

San Patricio Groundwater Conservation District (SPGCD) has scheduled an administrative law judge to preside over the preliminary hearing on April 28, 2026. During this hearing, the judge will review three protests and listen to testimony. The goal is to determine if each protestant has standing. Protests were filed regarding either well drilling permits or transport permit. It is up to the protestants to prove they have standing.

The district issued a production permit for 24 million gallons per day (MGD) on May 16, 2019, and renewed it on January 21, 2025. On April 2, the seller's attorney submitted a request to the SPGCD to issue emergency drilling and transport permits for eleven wells. The eleven wells identified in the request are the furthest from the protestants.

On February 17, the Council approved the purchase of groundwater rights at the Li Ranch. A condition for closing this deal is that the seller obtains permits for production, drilling, and transportation. Hydrogeologists have identified potential well locations for this land and will schedule an on-site review of these locations before beginning the well drilling permit application process. This on-site location review is expected to occur in April.

### Nueces Groundwater Program

As of today, the current expenditure for the Eastern Well Field Project is \$18,362,438, and for the Western Well Field Project, \$26,658,781. The Texas Water Development Board approved the \$30,000,000 grant on January 21.

The Eastern Well Field continues to operate in accordance with the approved monitoring plan and complies with all applicable state laws. Over the past seven days, the following volumes were produced: 03/26 3.8 MGD, 03/27 5.3 MGD, 03/28 3.7 MGD, 03/29 4.8 MGD, 03/30 5.1 MGD, 03/31 4.8 MGD, and 04/01 5.5 MGD.

The Western Well Field continues to operate, producing up to 6 MGD. Three wells are online. It is expected to have seven wells online by mid-April.

CCW crews have installed 25,537 linear feet, or 4.84 miles, of 24", 16", and 12" diameter PVC water lines needed for this well field's operation. Electrical work continues under the NEC to provide permanent power to the entire well field. The electrical contractor also continues to prepare each well site by installing electrical and operating control panels.

### Brackish Groundwater Reverse Osmosis Treatment Project

CCW, Garver Engineering, and Aqualia are conducting design work. It is expected that the contract with Aqualia will be fully executed on April 6. Construction is projected to be completed by CCW, multiple local contractors, and Aqualia. Garver Engineering continues designing the

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conveyance line, and City staff continue to meet with local contractors to discuss construction. Additional meetings will also be held with TXDOT and Nueces County to discuss installing the water line. We expect to begin construction on the first segment of the conveyance line by the end of April.

CCW Engineering continues designing the ground storage tank and pump station at the western well field. Pump designs and lead times are being evaluated for this pump station. Preliminary meetings with TCEQ have also taken place to discuss permits for the treatment plant, discharge, and well permitting. Discharge discussions with the regulatory agency have included evaporative ponds, injection well, and surface discharge.

CCW is working with AEP and HDR on the electrical service and upgrades required at the O.N. Stevens Water Treatment Plant for the pumping equipment and reverse osmosis treatment process. AEP has confirmed that power is available for the phased implementation and startup of the treatment equipment.

The team is working to complete the conveyance line and well field pump station by the end of this year. The expected water delivery through the Brackish Reverse Osmosis process is 4 MGD in February 2027, 5.3 MGD in May 2027, 5.3 MGD in September 2027, and 6.7 MGD in March 2028, for a total of 21.3 MGD.

## **Wastewater Reuse**

### Reclaimed Water Infrastructure Project

CCW continues negotiations with other entities about the use of effluent water. Council has approved agreements with Valero and Flint Hills Resources (FHR). Ongoing discussions are underway with other entities regarding future effluent contracts and end users. CCW is working to provide updated timelines for when these projects are expected to become operational, which will help offset demand.

FHR is working with CCW to integrate an ultra-filtration (UF) and reverse osmosis (RO) water purification system at the Allison Wastewater Treatment facility. This project may unfold in two phases: the first phase would supply 1 MGD of effluent to their facility through an FHR raw water line outside the Allison WWTP, replacing the raw water typically drawn from the river. If successful, the second phase would increase this capacity to 3 MGD. The UF/RO system, owned and operated by FHR, would be situated on FHR-owned property directly adjacent to the Allison plant.

Ardurra and CCW continue to design the infrastructure to convey approximately 10 MGD from the Oso Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to Greenwood WWTP. Ardurra expects to complete 60% of the design by April 23. Work is ongoing on potential land and easement acquisitions needed for the pipeline and pump station at Oso WWTP. Once property and easements are finalized and the design is nearly 60% complete, CCW will work with local contractors to discuss the phasing and scheduling of the conveyance line construction to expedite the project.

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Ardurra has also completed a draft environmental tech memorandum on effluent flows to Oso Bay and Oso Creek. This technical memorandum is under review before finalization.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) is set to be issued this week. It aims to select a firm to serve as a CMAR to complete the conveyance line from the Oso WWTP to the Greenwood WWTP. The selection of the CMAR firm will happen concurrently with the design process.

## **Seawater**

### Inner Harbor Seawater Desalination

At the February 24 meeting, the Council authorized staff to negotiate and draft a contract with the Corpus Christi Desal Partners (CCDP). City staff is continuing to work with CCDP to finalize a contract for Council review in April 2026.

The request for qualifications (RFQ) for the City's agent and representative was also issued, and two organizations submitted their qualifications. City staff is currently reviewing these documents. The City's agent and representative will only be engaged if the contract with CCDP is approved.

The Far Field Committee met on Friday, April 3, to discuss the modeling process with the modeler, Spheros. The modeler has stated that they will complete a significant amount of work by the end of April, with the final report to follow. The next Far Field Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on April 3, with the modelers attending.

### NRA - Harbor Island Seawater Desalination Project

Preliminary engineering work on the conveyance line has begun by the two contracted design firms, LAN Inc. and HDR Inc.

The NRA continues to review the qualifications of the four proposers for the treatment plant developer and expects to make a selection at the June Board of Directors Meeting.

TCEQ issued a draft intake permit and published it for public comment on February 25. The application, technical data, and draft permit from the Executive Director can be viewed on the TCEQ website at [https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/water\\_rights/wr-permitting/view-wr-pend.apps](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/water_rights/wr-permitting/view-wr-pend.apps). The NRA expects TCEQ to issue the draft discharge permit by the end of February 2026.

### Barney Davis Seawater Desalination Project

On March 17, Council approved a motion to authorize City staff to work with CPS Energy to explore options for a seawater desalination treatment plant next to the Barney Davis Power Plant. Further discussions with CPS Energy would be scheduled to proceed further.

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#### CC Polymer (Aquatech)

March 24, Council approved a motion to authorize City staff to negotiate a water supply agreement with Aquatech, who has reached an agreement with CC Polymers to complete the plant, install the necessary infrastructure, and obtain all required permits for operating the existing desalination facility to sell water to the City. Aquatech is a privately owned company founded in 1981 and based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

CCW staff met with representatives of Aquatech this week to discuss this project. An Additional meeting is scheduled for next week with CCW water quality and treatment staff.

#### **Surface Water**

##### Western Reservoirs (Lake Corpus Christi and Choke Canyon Reservoir)

On April 3, the reservoir capacity for Lake Corpus Christi is 8.4%, and 7.7% for Choke Canyon Reservoir. The combined capacity percentage of these reservoirs is 7.9%.

##### Lake Texana

On April 2, the Lavaca Navidad River Authority (LNRA) reported that Lake Texana's reservoir capacity was 53%. In comparison, the reservoir was at 81% capacity a year ago.

The drought condition plan for LNRA and Lake Texana requires a 10% reduction in water use when the reservoir level falls below 50%. It is currently estimated that the reservoir will fall below 50% on April 17. The prescribed reduction volume required when the reservoir drops below 50% will be deducted from the total water contractual amounts at the end of the year for the City of Corpus Christi and Corpus Christi Water. The same drought contingency plan requires a 20% reduction when the reservoir percentage drops below 40%. It is currently estimated that the reservoir will fall below 40% on June 7 if no additional inflows occur.

The City's water supply contract with LNRA is for a total of 31,440 acre-feet annually from Lake Texana, with options for an additional 12,000 acre-feet, or an interruptible 12,000 acre-feet, if available. This additional water has not yet been supplied this year. Additionally, the City has purchased 10,000 acre-feet from Formosa Plastics for 2026.

City staff and LNRA meet regularly to discuss the drought conditions and the operational process of curtailing water from Lake Texana.

##### Lower Colorado River

The Lower Colorado River is managed by the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA). The City of Corpus Christi has an annual run-of-river right of 35,000 acre-feet. CCW staff met with LCRA this week and were advised that conditions on the Colorado River are worsening due to the expanded drought across Texas. This could result in the reduction of available water from the Colorado River. LCRA continues to provide daily updates, and routine meetings are scheduled.

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### Water Conservation Advisory Committee

The Water Conservation Advisory Committee met on March 27 and continued making progress. The committee scheduled another meeting for April 24 for a final review of the document.

### Projected Delivery of New Water Sources

The Evangeline project will be updated once the City has more certainty about the outcomes of potential negotiations and the preliminary hearing. Reuse estimates will be revised once construction schedules are confirmed.

2026 Projected Delivery of Additional Water (MGD)														
Source	Project	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
Groundwater	WWF River Delivery			6	6	5								17
Groundwater	ERF Property (WWF Extension)				2	2	3	2						9
Groundwater	Evangeline											4	1	5
Reuse	FHR												1	1
<b>Total</b>														<b>32</b>

2027 Project Delivery of Additional Water (MGD)														
Source	Project	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
Groundwater	Evangeline	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	16
Reuse	FHR												1	1
Reuse	Valero												3	3
<b>Total</b>														<b>20</b>

2028 Project Delivery of Additional Water (MGD)														
Source	Project	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
Groundwater	Evangeline	2	1											3
Reuse	Valero	5												5
Reuse	Additional Customers	6												6
<b>Total</b>														<b>14</b>

Notes:

- 1) Western Well Field (WWF)
- 2) The projected delivery for each of our new water supply sources will be updated weekly as various factors influence the completion and partial completion of each project.
- 3) Eastern Well Field and Western Well Field daily production is dependent upon adherence to the operating protocol established in the bed and banks permit.
- 4) Evangeline Production estimates will be updated once we are more certain of the timeline for the next steps of the permitting timeline.
- 5) Well Production is dependent upon results from pumping and aquifer testing
- 6) Reuse is an offset of the potable water demand