

## CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI CORPUS CHRISTI WATER

**TO:** Peter Zanoni, City Manager

**FROM:** Nicholas Winkelmann, P.E., Interim Chief Operating Officer

**COPY:** Mayor & City Council

**DATE:** February 06, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Water Supply Update



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Corpus Christi Water (CCW) continues to advance multiple water projects to add new sources and diversify the water supply portfolio.

### **Evangeline Groundwater Project**

The San Patricio Groundwater Conservation District (SPGCD) held a public hearing and board meeting on February 6. During this meeting, the board approved the process to secure an administrative law judge to conduct a preliminary hearing. This hearing will determine the standing of the four protestants.

Working with staff, its hydrogeologic design consultants, and the design engineers, CCW has prepared an Operational and Monitoring Protocol for the Evangeline Well Field. This draft protocol has also been submitted to the Saint Paul Water Supply Corporation, the City of Sinton, and SPGCD. Additionally, it will be presented to Council at the Tuesday, February 10, council meeting for consideration.

Pape Dawson Engineers and Garney Construction are making significant progress with the design and pre-construction services. On February 4, a meeting was held with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to discuss the required permitting for this project. Council is expected to consider contract amendments for construction services and equipment purchases on February 17. The 60% design is expected to be completed by mid-March. The basis of the design report has been drafted and submitted to CCW for review.

Depending on the results of negotiations and the preliminary hearing, the estimated water delivery date may need to be adjusted. When more information becomes available, City staff will update the project timeline.

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#### Nueces River Groundwater Wells Project

As of today, the current expenditure for the Eastern Well Field Project is \$16,940,608, and for the Western Well Field Project, \$20,521,348. The \$30,000,000 grant was formerly approved by the Texas Water Development Board on January 21.

The Eastern Well Field continues to operate in accordance with the approved monitoring plan and in compliance with all State laws. The warranty issue for the Well No. 8 motor has been resolved, and reinstallation will be coordinated once the manufacturer repairs the motor.

On January 26, a pre-application meeting was held with the TCEQ regarding the Bed and Banks Permit for the Western Well Field. The permit application was officially submitted on January 30 and is being reviewed by TCEQ.

In the Western Well Field, Well Nos 9, 10, and 11 are complete and ready for operation once permanent power is made available. Updates regarding the other specific wells are as follows:

- Well No. 12 – Drilling is complete, well development is complete, test pumping and water quality were completed this week. The permanent pumping assembly has been designed, and we are awaiting the delivery of materials.
- Well No. 13 – Drilling, well development, performance testing, and water quality sampling have been completed. The permanent pumping assembly has been designed, and equipment has been ordered.
- Well No. 14 – Drilling is complete, and crews are installing test pumping equipment.
- Well No. 15 – The pilot hole has been completed to the total depth. The 20" casing has been installed and cemented. The bottom hole has been under reamed, and crews are currently installing the production screens.
- Well No. 16 – The pilot hole and geophysical logging have been completed. The logs have been reviewed, and the production screens have been ordered.
- Well No. 17 – Crews are currently drilling.

CCW crews have to date installed the 16,789 linear feet or 3.17 miles of 24", 16", and 12" diameter PVC water line required for the operation of this well field. Substantial progress has been made on the electric power supply to the well field, including the installation of seven transformers.

#### Lake Texana Reservoir Status

On January 30, the Lavaca Navidad River Authority (LNRA) reported that Lake Texana's reservoir capacity was 61%. In comparison, the reservoir was at 72% capacity a year ago.

The current LNRA drought contingency plan mandates reductions in pumping when the lake level falls to 50% capacity. This would then necessitate a 10% reduction in total pumping compared to the previous year. LNRA's current projection is that the reservoir capacity will fall below 50% on April 8 if no additional inflows occur. Our monthly briefing is to be scheduled and confirmed by mid-February.

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### **Reclaimed Water Infrastructure Project**

Ardurra and CCW are continuing to design the infrastructure required to convey approximately 10 MGD from the Oso Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to Greenwood WWTP. Significant progress has been made, and the draft Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) has been finalized. Ardurra's current estimate is that the project will be advertised for bidding in July/August 2026. The primary part of this project will involve installing about 15 miles of 36-inch conveyance line.

Site visits for both the Oso and Greenwood WWTP will take place next week. During these visits, CCW and its consulting engineers will review the current outfall condition at each plant.

CCW has continued discussions with multiple entities regarding the use of effluent water from the Allison, Greenwood, and Oso Wastewater Treatment Plants. On January 13, Council approved the agreement with Valero to purchase effluent. The agreement with Flint Hills Resources (FHR) was approved at the council meeting on January 27.

A coordination meeting was also held last week between Valero and Ardurra to review the design criteria for the multiple phases of the effluent projects. The meeting was meant to ensure that each engineering design is complementary to each other.

### **Inner Harbor Seawater Desalination**

The Corpus Christi Desal Partners (CCDP) and CCW are working together to present cost certain options for consideration at the February 24 council meeting. If Council approves moving forward, City staff would prepare a contract with CCDP for consideration at a council meeting in April 2026.

CCDP is working to finalize the proposal so that information can be presented to staff during the week of February 16 for review.

The request for qualifications (RFQ) for the City's agent/representative was also released, with submittals due February 4. Two submissions have been received for consideration.

On January 22, the Far Field Advisory Committee met, with the second meeting scheduled for March 5.

### **NRA - Harbor Island Seawater Desalination Project**

The Nueces River Authority (NRA) has issued the formal RFQ for the development partner, with responses due by March 6. The NRA anticipates selecting this development partner by mid-June.

TCEQ has issued a notice regarding an application for a water use permit for the Harbor Island Seawater Desalination Project. The permit would authorize the diversion and use of 350,000 acre-feet of water annually from a point in the Gulf for municipal and industrial purposes in Aransas, Nueces, and San Patricio Counties.

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The application, technical data, and the Executive Director's draft permit are available on the TCEQ web page 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.

### **South Texas Water Authority**

The South Texas Water Authority (STWA) board meets next on February 10 to revisit an amendment to its current agreement with Seven Seas. The amendment will accommodate the proposed new site and location for the brackish groundwater desalination plant. At the same meeting, the board will seek authorization for a special election to raise revenue for the authority to hold in reserve the amount needed to cover the \$60M award STWA received from the Texas Water Development Board.

CCW continues to work with the South Texas Water Authority and its consulting engineer under the existing memorandum of understanding (MOU).

### **Water Conservation Advisory Committee**

On February 13, the Water Conservation Advisory Committee will hold its second meeting.

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

City staff and CCW attended the Portland and Sinton council meetings this week. Comments were provided by the City Manager and Interim Chief Operating Officer at the Portland council meeting. City staff and CCW also attended and presented at the San Patricio Groundwater Conservation District meeting this week.

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#### Projected Delivery of New Water Sources

Please note that the Evangeline project will be updated once we have a clearer view of the results of potential negotiations and the preliminary hearing.

2026 Project Delivery of Additional Water (MGD)														
Source	Project	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
Groundwater	Western Well Field					17								17
Groundwater	Evangeline										4	1		5
Reuse	FHR											1		1
Reuse	Valero													
<b>Total</b>														<b>23</b>

The Western Well Field Extension project is planned to increase the total amount of water supplied in 2026, which will be presented to Council for consideration on February 10.

2027 Project Delivery of Additional Water (MGD)														
Source	Project	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
Groundwater	Western Well Field													
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	Western Well Field													
Groundwater	Evangeline	2	1											3
Reuse	FHR													
Reuse	Valero	5												5
<b>Total</b>														<b>8</b>

#### Notes:

- 1) 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.
- 2) Western Well Field Production is dependent upon approval of the TCEQ Bed and Banks Permit
- 3) Evangeline Production estimates will be updated once we are more certain on the timeline for the next steps of the permitting timeline.
- 4) Full production from the Evangeline well field is expected in Quarter 1 of 2028
- 5) Well Production is dependent upon results from pumping and aquifer testing