

**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: February 13, 2026
SUBJECT: **Water Supply Update**

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

Evangeline Groundwater Project

San Patricio Groundwater Conservation District (SPGCD) has scheduled a preliminary hearing with the administrative law judge for March 2. At this hearing, the judge will review the four protests on file and listen to testimony. The purpose of the hearing is to determine whether each of the four protestants has standing. Protests were filed regarding either the well drilling permits and/or the transport permit. The district issued a production permit for 24 million gallons per day (MGD) on May 16, 2019, which was renewed on January 21, 2025.

Pape Dawson Engineers and Garney Construction are making significant progress with the design and pre-construction services, with the 60% design documents scheduled for completion by mid-March. The Council is set to consider contract amendments for construction services and equipment purchases on February 17. The team continues to make progress to ensure water is delivered by November 2026.

Nueces River Groundwater Wells Project

As of today, the current expenditure for the Eastern Well Field Project is \$18,290,991, and for the Western Well Field Project, \$21,037,772. The \$30,000,000 grant was formerly approved by the Texas Water Development Board on January 21.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Bed and Banks Permit application for the Western Well Field was submitted on January 30.

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.

Water Supply Update

Page 2

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 and test pumping are complete with water quality samples obtained. The well performance data is being reviewed to design the permanent pumping assembly.
- Well No. 15 – Drilling is complete, and the well is currently being developed.
- 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 – The pilot hole has been completed along with the geophysical logging. The well design is complete, and the production screens have been ordered.

CCW crews have to date installed the 18,289 linear feet or 3.46 miles of 24”, 16”, and 12” diameter PVC water line required for the operation of this well field. Substantial work has been completed this week on the water line river outfall.

Lake Texana Reservoir Status

On February 12, the Lavaca Navidad River Authority (LNRA) reported that Lake Texana's reservoir capacity was 60%. 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 15 if no additional inflows occur.

Reclaimed Water Infrastructure Project

CCW continues to negotiate with other entities to utilize effluent water. City Council has approved the agreements with Valero and Flint Hills Resources

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. Ardurra's current estimate is that the project will be advertised for bidding in July or August 2026. The primary portion of this project will involve installing about 15 miles of 36-inch conveyance line.

Inner Harbor Seawater Desalination

The Corpus Christi Desal Partners (CCDP) and CCW are working together to present a path forward, with 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.

The request for qualifications (RFQ) for the City's agent/representative was also released, with submissions from two organizations received. City staff is reviewing these qualification documents.

The Far Field Advisory Committee met on January 22, with a second meeting planned for March 5.

NRA - Harbor Island Seawater Desalination Project

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

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (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 per year from a point in the Gulf for municipal and industrial purposes in Aransas, Nueces, and San Patricio Counties.

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. The NRA expects TCEQ to issue the draft discharge permit by the end of February 2026.

NRA is also moving forward with completing the design contract for the conveyance pipeline.

South Texas Water Authority

On February 10, the South Texas Water Authority (STWA) board met 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, no action was taken. The board did vote in favor of authorizing a special election to assist the authority to raise revenues to hold in reserve to cover the \$60MM award that was received from the Texas Water Development Board.

CCW continues to work with the STWA and its consulting engineer under the existing memorandum of understanding (MOU).

Water Conservation Advisory Committee

The Water Conservation Advisory Committee held a meeting on February 13, with the next meeting scheduled for February 27.

Projected Delivery of New Water Sources

Please be advised that the Evangeline project will be subject to updates once we attain greater certainty regarding the outcomes of potential negotiations and the preliminary hearing. The delivery of additional water from the Western Well Field Extension will be provided next week, once more details are confirmed.

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													
Total														23

The Western Well Field Extension project, which will increase the total water supply in 2026, will be presented to the Council for consideration in February.

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
Total														20

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
Total														8

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 of 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