


**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: October 31, 2025
SUBJECT: **Water Supply Update**

Corpus Christi Water (CCW) continues to progress forward on our water supply projects to add new sources and diversify the water supply portfolio.

Nueces River Groundwater Wells Project

As of today, the current expenditure for the Eastern Well Field Project is \$15,949,373, and \$8,983,347 for the Western Well Field Project. The State has committed to providing a \$30,000,000 grant for this project. Staff have been working with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) on the appropriation of funds. The resolution to request the granted money will be presented to Council on November 18, 2025.

In the Eastern Well Field, Well Nos. 1 to 8 are complete. The City is currently discharging into the Nueces River in accordance with the approved monitoring plan and in compliance with all State laws. There is a warranty issue associated with well pump No. 8, and the contractor is addressing it.

In the Western Well Field, the status is as follows:

- Well No. 9 – Drilling complete, permanent pump has been designed, awaiting delivery of the permanent pumping equipment
- Well No. 10 – Drilling complete, test pumping and water quality sampling complete.
- Well No. 11 – Drilling complete, test pumping and water quality sampling complete.
- Well No. 12 – The 20” casing has been installed and cemented. The production well screen is on site. The well is to be completed with development ongoing over the next two weeks.
- Well No. 13 – The 20” casing has been installed and cemented. The production well screen has been designed, and we are awaiting delivery.
- Water line and river outfall have been designed with construction ongoing with 2,408 linear feet (LF) of 24” diameter PVC water line, 520 LF of 16” diameter PVC water line, and 1,360 LF of 12” diameter PVC water line installed by CCW crews

Investigative work continues on the Nueces River to better understand other factors that are affecting river water quality. Five locations that are contributing high levels to TDS into the river.

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These sources are independent of the City's groundwater wells and have measured total dissolved solids ranging from 4,400 to 11,700 ppm.

Staff is working with professional engineering consultants to prepare the second bed and banks permit.

Evangeline Groundwater Project

At the City Council meeting on October 21, 2025, the Council approved an ordinance that authorizes the execution of a Groundwater Rights Purchase and Sale Agreement with Evangeline/Laguna, LP in the amount of \$169,491,700; and execution of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with City of Sinton; and an agreement with Saint Paul Water Supply Cooperation and amending the FY 2026 Capital Budget.

The design team, consisting of Pape Dawson, Hanson, Intera, and HDR, is moving forward on due diligence and pre-design efforts. Following is a status of some of the primary efforts:

- The initial layout of the well field is complete
- Coordination with AEP continues, and 20% of the electrical demand design has been completed
- The Mary Rhodes Pipeline (MRP) connection point has been identified, with coordination and modeling work continuing to support design operating scenarios
- The detailed delivery schedule is anticipated to be available for review by December 16, 2025
- The detailed opinion of probable construction cost (OPCC) is anticipated to be available for review by December 16, 2025

An independent hydrogeologic review of the groundwater availability assessment has been completed. The findings concur with the previous investigative work and have provided some design considerations for the well field.

The preliminary boundary survey has been received and provided to Evangeline Laguna LP for review. The survey contractor is working toward a final, signed, and sealed boundary survey.

Reclaimed Water Infrastructure Project

CCW is meeting with Ardurra next week to review their proposal for effluent conveyance from the Oso Wastewater Treatment Plant. The intent will be to present a professional services contract to Council on November 18 to move this phase of the reclaimed water plan forward. The project will be designed for expediency and would involve bringing on a contractor early in the process to expedite delivery.

CCW has been in discussions with multiple entities regarding the use of effluent water from our Wastewater Treatment Plants. Discussions and negotiations are continuing with multiple meetings scheduled for next week.

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Garver has completed their preliminary technical and feasibility memo regarding Aquifer Storage and Recovery, effluent conveyance, and direct potable reuse.

NRA - Harbor Island Seawater Desalination Project

The Nueces River Authority (NRA) has received 16 responses to its Conveyance Line request for qualifications (RFQ). At their November 14th board meeting, a request to begin negotiations with respondents will be presented. The NRA and its consultants are continuing to develop a request for proposals (RFP) for a private partner for plant design, with the goal of advertising it by the end of November 2025.

The City of Corpus Christi has reserved 56,007-acre feet of water per year, or approximately 50 MGD of the 100 MGD plant. Other entities have reserved another 45 MGD.

Required permits include the following:

- TCEQ Intake: draft expected 10/2025
- TCEQ Discharge: draft expected 10/2025
- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – Construction on Harbor Island
- USACE – Bore under the Island
- USACE – Structures and diversion

The NRA's agreement with the Port of Corpus Christi (POCC) includes the following provisions

- 30 acres of land located on Harbor Island
- Fifty-year agreement with an extension to build and operate a water treatment plant
- Includes easements for water conveyance line
- POCC would obtain all TCEQ and ACOE permits

South Texas Water Authority

On September 23, South Texas Water Authority (STWA) Executive Director John Marez provided an update to Council and provided the following information:

- The STWA Board of Directors approved the offering of water to the City on September 9, 2025
- Raw water quality results from their test well were provided to the City as requested
- The water purchased by the City will be treated/finished water and meet or exceed all TCEQ primary and secondary drinking water standards
- The final target of Phase 1 of the project is 13 MGD, with 3 MGD for STWA and 10 MGD available for sale to the City
- There could be an option to add additional water in 10 MGD increments
- STWA has drafted a potential contract to prepare for potential future negotiations

STWA has requested that current discussions first focus on extending its existing water purchase contract with the City, which expires on December 31, 2025. CCW and STWA had productive meetings this week regarding the contract extension agreement.

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CC Polymers Seawater Desalination Treatment Plant

On October 16, the City provided a letter to CC Polymers affirming the interest in pursuing a plant/equipment purchase. CC Polymer responded to this correspondence on October 23, 2025. In the reply, CC Polymer stated that they decided not to proceed with the proposed discussions regarding the potential acquisition of the Desalination property.

CC Polymers has stated that they would be open to continuing discussions regarding alternative forms of collaboration.

Inner Harbor Water Treatment Campus

A formal notice of cancellation was sent to Kiewit on October 10, 2025. Notification letters regarding the cancellation were also issued to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

Per Council's direction, a formal request was made of the TWDB in correspondence dated October 14, 2025, to authorize a change in scope for the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas SWIFT loans currently allocated to the City's Inner Harbor Desalination Treatment Plant Project. No response to this correspondence has been received to date.

Next Week's Community Engagement and Outreach

Event	Date	Time	Location
San Patricio County Commissioners Court	November 3	9:00 am	1301 E. Sinton, Ste C Sinton, Texas
State of San Patricio County	November 5	11:30 am	Aransas Pass Civic Center Aransas Pass, Texas
Nueces Groundwater Information Session	November 6	6:00 pm	Grace United Methodist Church 14521 Northwest Blvd.