

# **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:** January 16, 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**

The Sant Patricio Ground Water Conservation District (SPGCD) held a board meeting and public hearing today, January 16. The public hearing provided an opportunity for public comments on the district's proposed rule changes. At the board meeting, the board decided to defer any decisions on the rule changes to a future meeting to allow for review of the comments provided.

The SPGCD has determined that the submitted drilling and transport permits by Evangeline Laguna LP are administratively complete. The district will then hold a public hearing and a board meeting on February 6 to consider approving these permits.

To meet the construction schedule to deliver water by November 2026, the City's contractors must begin construction activities, including well drilling, as soon as possible. It is critical that SPGCD issues the permits by February 6 to ensure the City's construction schedule can proceed.

On May 16, 2019, SPGCD issued a production permit for 24 MGD to Evangeline, which was renewed on January 21, 2025.

Pape Dawson Engineers and Garney Construction (Garney) continue to advance with design and pre-construction services. Contract amendments for construction services and equipment purchase are expected to be presented to the Council for consideration on February 10. The design work, pre-construction services, and input from Garney have shown that partial delivery can be achieved in November 2026 if the permits are approved by February 6.

The hydrogeologic work completed confirms that the targeted 24 MGD can be achieved with the addition of 22 new wells. The initial power requirements for the 24 wells and the pump station have been determined by the design team. AEP scheduling and timeline have also been reviewed and confirmed to meet the requirements for partial delivery in November 2026.

The Evangeline Laguna LP continues its mediation with its landowners.

**Lake Texana Reservoir Status**

On January 16, LNRA reported that Lake Texana's reservoir capacity was at 63%. In comparison, the reservoir was at 74% capacity a year ago. The current drought contingency plan mandates reductions in pumping when the lake level reaches 50% of capacity. This would then necessitate a 10% reduction in total pumping compared to the previous year. LNRA has committed to providing the City with weekly updates regarding this status.

LNRA's drought contingency plan states that pro-rata water use reductions would be as follows:

<b>Reservoir Storage Capacity</b>	<b>Pro-Rata Water Use Reduction</b>
50%	10%
40%	20%
30%	35%
20%	50%
10%	- %

**Nueces River Groundwater Wells Project**

As of today, the current expenditure for the Eastern Well Field Project is \$16,636,718, and for the Western Well Field Project, \$16,720,235.

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. No wells were operating for approximately 1-1/2 days this week due to the elevated water level at the Calallen pool.

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

- Well No. 9 – Drilling is complete, and the permanent pumping assembly is installed.
- Well No. 10 – Drilling is complete, and the permanent pumping assembly is scheduled to begin this weekend, as there has been an equipment delay.
- Well No. 11 – Drilling is complete, test pumping, and water quality sampling are complete. The expected installation of the permanent pumping assembly is scheduled to begin after the installation of well pump No. 10.
- 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. It is expected that this pumping assembly will be installed immediately after the installation of well pump No. 12.

- Well No. 13 – Drilling, well development, performance testing, and water quality sampling have been completed. The permanent pumping assembly has been designed.
- Well No. 14 – The 20" casing has been installed and cemented. The pilot hole has been completed to depth, and geophysical logging has been conducted. The well screens have been ordered with delivery expected within the next week.
- Well No. 15 – The pilot hole has been completed to the total depth. The 20" casing has been installed and cemented.
- Well No. 16 – The pilot hole is in the process of being drilled.
- CCW crews have to date installed the 13,687 linear feet or 2.59 miles of 24", 16", and 12" diameter PVC water line required for the operation of this well field.

### **Reclaimed Water Infrastructure Project**

Ardurra and CCW continue to design the infrastructure required to convey approximately 10 MGD from the Oso Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to Greenwood WWTP. The preliminary alignments for the conveyance pipeline and the locations of the ground storage tank and pump station at the Oso WWTP have been identified. Additional property adjacent to the plant will be needed to accommodate the installation of the additional infrastructure. The pump alignment and the plans for on-site improvements have also been developed.

Ardurra's current projection is for the project to be advertised for bid in July or August 2026. The primary portion of this project will involve installing approximately 15 miles of 36" conveyance line.

CCW has continued discussions with multiple entities regarding the use of effluent water from the Allison, Greenwood, and Oso Wastewater Treatment Plants. The agreement with Valero to purchase effluent will be presented and approved at the Council Meeting on January 13.

### **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 and CCW have multiple meetings this coming week to further review the design information and work prepared to date.

The request for qualifications (RFQ) for the City's agent/representative was also released with submittals due February 4, 2026.

The first Far Field Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for January 22.

**NRA - Harbor Island Seawater Desalination Project**

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 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](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/water_rights/wr-permitting/view-wr-pend.apps).

The Nueces River Authority (NRA) continues to work with its selected design firms to formalize their scope of work for the water pumping and conveyance portion of the project. The focus of this work will initially be on the first segment of the conveyance line leading from the plant.

The formal Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the public-private partnership has been postponed for further review and is now scheduled for release by the end of January, with responses due 30 days later.

**South Texas Water Authority**

A South Texas Water Authority (STWA) board workshop with Seven Seas has been rescheduled from January 13 to January 20. It is anticipated that a board meeting will follow the workshop, during which the contract amendment with Seven Seas will be reconsidered. STWA is tentatively scheduled to provide an update to the City at the council meeting on January 27.

The initial project would be for 3 MGD, with possibly 1.4 MGD available for sale to CCW. Coordination continues under the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

**Water Conservation Advisory Committee**

The Water Conservation Advisory Committee's first meeting is scheduled for January 23.