

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: December 12, 2025

SUBJECT: Water Supply Update

Corpus Christi Water (CCW) continues to progress forward on multiple water 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 \$16,623,062, and for the Western Well Field Project, \$13,396,358. On December 16, City Council (Council) unanimously approved the ordinance authorizing a formal request to accept grant funding from the state of Texas and through the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for \$30,000,000 grant funding of this project.

The Eastern Well Field continues to operate in accordance with the approved monitoring plan and in compliance with all State laws. There is a warranty issue with the motor for Well pump No. 8, and City staff are working with the contractor to resolve it.

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

- Well No. 9 – Drilling is complete, and the permanent pumping assembly is installed. The power transformer is set. The next step will be to install the electrical controls and connect them to permanent power within the next 1 to 2 weeks.
- Well No. 10 – Drilling is complete, test pumping, and water quality sampling are complete. The expected installation of the permanent pumping assembly is to take place before December 25.
- Well No. 11 – Drilling is complete, test pumping, and water quality sampling are complete. The expected installation of the permanent pumping assembly is to take place before December 25.
- Well No. 12 – Drilling is complete, well development is complete, test pumping and water quality were completed this week. The permanent pumping assembly is being designed.
- Well No. 13 – Drilling is complete, well development is ongoing, with the well performance testing scheduled to begin December 16.

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- 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 in the first week of January
- Well No. 15 – Drilling is set to begin early next week
- Well No. 16 – Drilling is set to begin early next week
- The water line and river outfall have been designed alongside the ongoing construction of 4,935 linear feet (LF) of 24" diameter PVC water line, 1,780 LF of 16" diameter PVC water line, and 2,360 LF of 12" diameter PVC water line installed by CCW crews

City staff is working with our consultants to complete the Bed and Banks Permit and submit it to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) by January 2026. A pre-application call was held with TCEQ this week to conduct a preliminary review of the application document.

The Corpus Christi Aquifer Storage and Recovery Groundwater Conservation District (CCASRCD) will hold a public hearing on December 15 at 6:30 p.m. to present the City's permit applications. CCASRCD also has a board meeting scheduled for December 19 at 11:00 a.m. at which time the applications will be considered.

Evangeline Groundwater Project

Evangeline Laguna LP submitted permit applications to the San Patricio Groundwater Conservation District (SPGCD) electronically on December 11 and in person on December 12. The City Manager and CCW staff attended the SPGCD board meeting on December 12. The City Manager and Interim Chief Operating Officer stressed to the board the critical importance of the Evangeline Groundwater Project for all CCW customers, including those in San Patricio County.

During this meeting, the board of directors approved a temporary moratorium on the acceptance and processing of new or amended non-exempt drilling, operating, and transport permit applications. It remains uncertain how this moratorium will affect these applications. The district is set to publish the approved resolution on Monday, December 15. At that point, the Evangeline Laguna legal team will begin to review the resolution and provide a response to the City.

The design team, consisting of Pape Dawson, Hanson, Intera, and HDR, is progressing with due diligence and pre-design efforts. The progress to date includes the following:

- Property Survey – the final sealed survey is expected by December 12
- Well Field Modeling – Expected to be complete by December 12
- Well piping hydraulic modeling – Complete
- Electrical load modeling – Complete
- Electrical line sizing and routing – In progress with AEP
- Connection point location to the Mary Rhodes Pipeline – Confirmed
- Pump Station pre-design – Ongoing
- Opinion of Probable Construction Cost – Expected to be completed by December 12
- High-Level Construction Schedule – Expected to be complete by December 17

Amendment 1 to the Master Services Agreement (MSA) with Pape-Dawson Engineers will be presented for consideration at the December 16 council meeting, along with a pre-construction services contract with Garney Companies, Inc. The professional services amendment will allow Pape-Dawson to complete the full project design and also including permitting, construction management, coordination, and other services. The construction contract with Garney will support the identification and procurement of long-lead items, provide critical design input, assist in developing the construction schedule, and contribute to the construction cost estimates. If approved, pre-construction work packages are expected to be presented to the Council in early 2026.

Reclaimed Water Infrastructure Project

Ardurra Group Inc. has begun designing an effluent conveyance line to connect the Oso Wastewater Treatment Plant to the Greenwood Wastewater Treatment Plant. This week's meetings focused on determining the alignment for the conveyance line, considering time and cost factors. The project will be designed for expedited delivery, and a contractor will be brought on early to accelerate the process.

CCW continues discussions with multiple entities regarding the use of effluent water from the Allison, Greenwood, and Oso Wastewater Treatment Plants. CCW plans to bring one contract to Council for consideration on January 13.

NRA - Harbor Island Seawater Desalination Project

The Nueces River Authority (NRA) continues to negotiate with its five selected design firms to assist with water pumping and conveyance. NRA has received preliminary scoping documents from two firms and will continue to negotiate toward an agreement.

The formal Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the public-private partnership is scheduled to be released on December 17, with a response due date of January 30, 2026.

Inner Harbor Seawater Desalination

On December 8, the City Manager and City staff met with the Executive Administrator of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). At this meeting, the Executive Administrator stated that his recommendation would be for the TWDB board to approve the City's funding deferment request at the December 16 meeting.

The Corpus Christi Desal Partners (CCDP) and City staff are working together to present cost certain options for consideration at the February 17, 2026, council meeting. If Council approves moving forward, City staff would prepare a contract with CCDP for consideration at a council meeting in April 2026.

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A memo was issued this week to the Mayor and Council requesting input for the attendees of the Far Field Modeling Advisory Committee.

South Texas Water Authority

At the South Texas Water Authority (STWA) board meeting on December 9, an amendment to the existing contract with Seven Seas Water Corporation (Seven Seas) was tabled.

Today, the City Manager and City staff met with STWA Executive Director John Marez, who informed us that an STWA board workshop with Seven Seas is scheduled for January 13. A board meeting will likely also be scheduled for the same day, and the board may act on the amendment then. STWA could potentially present at the City of Corpus Christi council meeting on January 27.

CCW will coordinate a meeting next week with STWA and their design engineers to further discuss the project.

An update on the STWA and Seven Seas Water Project will be provided at the December 16 council meeting during the City Manager's Comments.

Lake Texana Reservoir Status

Lake Texana is currently 69.9% full, according to the Lavaca-Navidad River Authority (LNRA). In December 2024, the reservoir was 75% full for comparison. CCW will schedule a meeting with LNRA in January to discuss the reservoir's status and ongoing improvement projects. LNRA's current drought contingency plan mandates reductions in pumping when the lake level drops to 50% capacity.

An Interlocal Agreement with LNRA will be presented for consideration at the December 16 council meeting to facilitate upgrades and expansion of the Bay City Pump Station. This project will allow for the permanent installation of spare pumping equipment.