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## AGENDA ITEM MEMO

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** August 15, 2024

**TO:** Board Members

**THROUGH:** Bryan McMath, Interim Executive Administrator  
Ashley Harden, General Counsel  
Matt Nelson, Deputy Executive Administrator, Office of Planning

**FROM:** Temple McKinnon, Director, Water Supply Planning  
Sarah Lee, Manager, Regional Water Planning

**SUBJECT:** 2021 Regional Water Plan Amendments

### ACTION REQUESTED

Consider approving amendments to the 2021 Regional Water Plans for regions B, F, G, L, and M and authorizing the Executive Administrator to hold a public hearing for the associated 2022 State Water Plan amendment.

### BACKGROUND

In accordance with Texas Water Code 16.053(h)(10), regional water planning groups are required, each 5-year planning cycle, to review the previous regional water plans to identify water management strategies and projects that had become infeasible and amend those plans if any infeasible strategies or projects were identified. In accordance with statute:

For purposes of this subdivision, a water management strategy or project is considered infeasible if the proposed sponsor of the water management strategy or project has not taken an affirmative vote or other action to make expenditures necessary to construct or file applications for permits required in connection with the implementation of the water management strategy or project under federal or state law on a schedule that is consistent with the completion of the implementation of the water management strategy or project by the time the water management strategy or project is projected by the regional water plan or the state water plan to be needed. (TWC § 16.053)

<b>Our Mission</b>	:	<b>Board Members</b>
Leading the state's efforts	:	Brooke T. Paup, Chairwoman   L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Board Member
in ensuring a secure	:	
water future for Texas	:	Bryan McMath, Interim Executive Administrator

Regions B, F, G, and M adopted amendments to their 2021 Regional Water Plans to either remove identified infeasible strategies and projects or revise those infeasible strategies and projects to ensure that they are feasible.

Eligibility for the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) funding program requires that projects are included in the most recent regional and state water plan with a non-zero capital cost. Accordingly, Region L adopted an amendment to their 2021 Regional Water Plan to revise components of a water management strategy project in order for the project to be SWIFT eligible.

## **KEY ISSUES**

### **Region B 2021 Regional Water Plan Minor Amendment**

- The Region B planning group approved submitting a request for a minor amendment determination at its February 7, 2024 meeting.
- The Executive Administrator provided a written determination, dated April 12, 2024, that the proposed amendment constitutes a minor amendment in accordance with 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 357.51(c).
- The Region B planning group adopted the minor amendment at their May 15, 2024 meeting. No public comments were received on the amendment.
- The amendment identified the City of Bowie's indirect reuse water management strategy and project as infeasible.
- To address this infeasible strategy and project, the amendment revises the online decade of the strategy and project from 2020 to 2030 in order to accurately reflect a feasible timeline. No new unmet needs resulted from this amendment.

### **Region F 2021 Regional Water Plan Minor Amendment**

- The Region F planning group approved submitting a request for a minor amendment determination at its February 1, 2024 meeting.
- The Executive Administrator provided a written determination, dated April 12, 2024, that the proposed amendment constitutes a minor amendment in accordance with 31 TAC § 357.51(c).
- The Region F planning group adopted the minor amendment at their May 23, 2024 meeting. No public comments were received on the amendment.
- The amendment identified the following water management strategies and projects as infeasible:
  1. City of Bronte development of Other Aquifer supplies in Coke County.
  2. Mitchell County Steam Electric Power direct non-potable reuse sales from Colorado City.
  3. City of Junction development of Edwards-Trinity Plateau Aquifer supplies.
  4. City of Balmoreha development of Edwards-Trinity Plateau Aquifer supplies.
- To address these infeasible strategies and projects, the amendment makes the following revisions:
  1. The City of Bronte's Other Aquifer development strategy and project is replaced by the previously alternative strategy and project to develop Edwards-Trinity Plateau Aquifer supplies in Nolan County. The original, Other Aquifer strategy and project becomes alternative and the Edwards-Trinity Plateau Aquifer strategy and project becomes recommend with an online date of 2030. Additionally, the

- beneficiary of the Edwards-Trinity Plateau Aquifer strategy is revised from Robert Lee to Bronte. This results in new unmet needs of 209 acre-feet per year (ac-ft/yr) in 2020 for Bronte and 234 ac-ft/yr in 2020 for Robert Lee that, in the event of a drought of record, would have to be met by demand management until the project is online.
2. The Mitchell County Steam Electric Power direct non-potable reuse sales from Colorado City is removed from the plan. This results in increases in unmet needs for Mitchell County Steam Electric Power by 500 ac-ft/yr in each decade.
  3. The online decade is revised from 2020 to 2030 for the City of Junction's development of Edwards-Trinity Plateau Aquifer supplies, to accurately reflect a feasible timeline. This results in new unmet needs of 368 ac-ft/yr in 2020 for Junction that, in the event of a drought of record, would have to be met by demand management until the project is online.
  4. The online decade is revised from 2020 to 2030 for the City of Balmorhea's development of Edwards-Trinity Plateau Aquifer supplies, in order to accurately reflect a feasible timeline. This results in new unmet needs of 105 ac-ft/yr in 2020 for Balmorhea that, in the event of a drought of record, would have to be met by demand management until the project is online.

### **Region G 2021 Regional Water Plan Major Amendment**

- The Region G planning group approved initiating the major amendment process at its February 13, 2024 meeting.
- The Region G planning group held a public hearing on the proposed amendment on March 27, 2024 and adopted the major amendment at their May 15, 2024 meeting. No public comments were received on the amendment.
- The amendment identified the following water management strategies and projects as infeasible:
  1. Trinity Aquifer development for Godley, Johnson County Special Utility District (SUD), and Highland Park WSC (Water Supply Corporation).
  2. New water treatment plant for Jayton.
  3. Cedar Ridge Reservoir sponsored by Abilene and related interconnect project for Sweetwater.
  4. Lake Creek Reservoir sponsored by North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority.
  5. New Throckmorton Reservoir sponsored by Throckmorton.
  6. Coryell County Off-channel Reservoir sponsored by Multi-County WSC.
- To address these infeasible strategies and projects, the amendment makes the following revisions:
  1. The online decade is revised from 2020 to 2030 for the City of Godley and Highland Park WSC development of Trinity Aquifer supplies, in order to accurately reflect a feasible timeline. This results in new unmet needs of 3 ac-ft/yr in 2020 for Godley and 82 ac-ft/yr of new unmet needs in 2020 for Highland Park WSC that, in the event of a drought of record, would have to be met by demand management until the project is online.
  2. The Trinity Aquifer development strategy and project for Johnson County SUD is removed, and a new voluntary redistribution strategy was added for Johnson County SUD's customers with surpluses. Additionally, a portion of the Johnson

County SUD supply from the Tarrant Regional Water District – Unallocated Supply Utilization strategy was reallocated. No new unmet needs for Johnson County SUD resulted from this amendment.

3. Jayton’s new water treatment plant strategy and project is removed. Jayton’s existing groundwater supply is increased to the annual well production capacity, and no new unmet needs for Jayton resulted from this amendment.
  4. The online decade is revised from 2030 to 2040 for Cedar Ridge Reservoir strategy for all beneficiaries and the Cedar Ridge Reservoir project and related project Interconnect from Abilene to Sweetwater is revised from 2020 to 2040 to accurately reflect feasible timelines. Additionally, the strategy supply volumes from the Oak Creek Reservoir Conjunctive Use and Brazos River Authority System Operation Surplus strategies are revised for certain beneficiaries, as detailed in Item 3 of the 2021 Region G Regional Water Plan Amendment. This results in no new unmet needs associated with the revision to Cedar Ridge Reservoir.
  5. The online decade is revised from 2030 to 2040 for Lake Creek Reservoir strategy and project for all beneficiaries to accurately reflect a feasible timeline. This results in new unmet needs in 2030 for Haskell (473 ac-ft/yr), Knox City (214 ac-ft/yr), and Munday (229 ac-ft/yr) that, in the event of a drought of record, would have to be met by demand management until the project is online.
  6. The online decade is revised from 2030 to 2050 for New Throckmorton Reservoir strategy and project for Throckmorton and Graham to accurately reflect a feasible timeline. This results in new unmet needs in 2030 and 2040 for Throckmorton (127 ac-ft/yr in 2030, 121 ac-ft/yr in 2040) and Graham (1,446 ac-ft/yr in 2030, 1,401 ac-ft/yr in 2040) that, in the event of a drought of record, would have to be met by demand management until the project is online.
  7. The online decade is revised from 2030 to 2050 for Coryell County Off-Channel Reservoir strategy and project for all beneficiaries to accurately reflect a feasible timeline. This results in new unmet needs in 2030 and 2040 for Gatesville (280 ac-ft/yr in 2030, 543 ac-ft/yr in 2040) and Flat WSC (1 ac-ft/yr in 2030, 3 ac-ft/yr in 2040) that, in the event of a drought of record, would have to be met by demand management until the project is online.
- The amendment also corrects two editorial errors in the text of the 2021 Region G Regional Water Plan.

### **Region M 2021 Regional Water Plan Minor Amendment**

- The Region M planning group approved submitting a request for a minor amendment determination at its February 22, 2024 meeting.
- The Executive Administrator provided a written determination, dated April 12, 2024, that the proposed amendment constitutes a minor amendment in accordance with 31 TAC § 357.51(c).
- The Region M planning group adopted the minor amendment at their May 15, 2024 meeting. No public comments were received on the amendment.
- The amendment identified the following water management strategies and projects as infeasible:
  1. City of Edinburg’s non-potable reuse water management strategy and project.

2. City of McAllen's north wastewater treatment plant potable reuse water management strategy and project.
- To address these infeasible strategies and projects, the amendment makes the following revisions:
    1. The online decade is revised from 2020 to 2030 for Edinburg's non-potable reuse strategy and project, in order to accurately reflect a feasible timeline. This results in new unmet needs of 2,841 ac-ft/yr in 2020 for Edinburg that, in the event of a drought of record, would have to be met by demand management until the project is online, and new unmet needs of 613 ac-ft/yr in 2020 for Steam-Electric Power, Hidalgo.
    2. The online decade is revised from 2030 to 2040 for McAllen's potable reuse strategy and project, in order to accurately reflect a feasible timeline. No new unmet needs for McAllen resulted from this amendment.

### **Region L 2021 Regional Water Plan Minor Amendment**

- Region L planning group approved submitting request for a minor amendment determination at its February 14, 2024, meeting.
- Executive Administrator provided a written determination, dated April 12, 2024, that the proposed amendment constitutes a minor amendment in accordance with 31 TAC § 357.51(c).
- Region L planning group adopted the minor amendment at their May 2, 2024, meeting. No public comments were received on the amendment.
- The amendment revises the transmission pipeline component of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) Lower Basin Storage Project water management strategy and project by extending length of the currently planned 1 mile pipeline to 89 miles. This revised transmission pipeline would connect the Lower Basin Storage Project with the Mid-Basin Project, facilitating better distribution of available surface water resources within the region.
- The amendment revises the capital cost of the GBRA Lower Basin Storage project from approximately \$65.5 million to \$507.6 million.

Copies of these planning group-adopted amendments are available on the [TWDB website](#).

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Executive Administrator recommends approval of the amendments to the 2021 Regional Water Plans for regions B, F, G, L, and M and authorization to hold an associated public hearing for the subsequent 2022 State Water Plan amendment.