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## AGENDA ITEM MEMO

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** November 6, 2024

**TO:** Board Members

**THROUGH:** Bryan McMath, 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 G and H and authorizing the Executive Administrator to hold a public hearing for the associated 2022 State Water Plan amendment.

### **BACKGROUND**

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, Regions G and H adopted amendments to their 2021 Regional Water Plans to include additional water management strategy projects in order for the projects to be SWIFT eligible.

### **KEY ISSUES**

#### **Region G 2021 Regional Water Plan Minor Amendment – City of Georgetown**

- The Region G planning group approved submitting a request for a minor amendment determination at its August 1, 2024 meeting.
- The Executive Administrator provided a written determination, dated August 29, 2024, that the proposed amendment constitutes a minor amendment in accordance with 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 357.51(c).
- The amendment adds a new water management strategy and associated project for the City of Georgetown to import groundwater from the Carrizo Wilcox Aquifer in Robertson County.
- The amendment increases the capital cost of the 2021 Region G plan by \$308.7 million and results in approximately 11,000 acre-feet per year of additional strategy supply by 2070.

#### **Our Mission**

Leading the state's efforts  
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#### **Board Members**

Brooke T. Paup, Chairwoman | L'Oreal Stepney, P.E., Board Member | Tonya R. Miller, Board Member  
Bryan McMath, Executive Administrator

- The Region G planning group adopted the minor amendment at their September 24, 2024, meeting, following a 14-day public comment period.
- The Region G planning group received public comments from the City of Bryan on the proposed amendment. The amendment adopted by the regional planning group includes a summary of the comments and the region's response to comments. No changes were made in response to public comments.

#### **Region H 2021 Regional Water Plan Minor Amendments – Baytown Area Water Authority**

- The Region H planning group approved submitting a request for a minor amendment determination at its May 4, 2022 meeting.
- The Executive Administrator provided a written determination, dated June 24, 2024, that the proposed amendment constitutes a minor amendment in accordance with 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 357.51(c).
- The amendment adds a new water management strategy and associated project for expansion of the East Surface Water Treatment Plant.
- The amendment increases the capital cost of the 2021 Region H plan by \$51 million and results in approximately 6,800 acre-feet per year of additional strategy supply by 2070.
- The Region H planning group adopted the minor amendment at their August 7, 2024, meeting, following a 14-day public comment period.
- No public comments were received on the amendment.

#### **Region H 2021 Regional Water Plan Minor Amendments – City of Houston**

- The Region H planning group approved submitting a request for a minor amendment determination at its August 1, 2024 meeting.
- The Executive Administrator provided a written determination, dated September 9, 2024, that the proposed amendment constitutes a minor amendment in accordance with 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 357.51(c).
- The amendment adds a new water management strategy and associated project for the City of Houston's enhancement and expansion of the East Water Purification Plant.
- The amendment increases the capital cost of the 2021 Region H plan by \$401.5 million and results in approximately 52,000 acre-feet per year of additional strategy supply by 2070. In accordance with TWDB rule (31 TAC § 357.34(d)), only the costs associated with expansion of the plant resulting in an increase in water volume are included in the plan.
- The Region H planning group adopted the minor amendment at their October 2, 2024, meeting, following a 14-day public comment period.
- No public comments were received on the amendment.

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

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Executive Administrator recommends approval of the amendments to the 2021 Regional Water Plans for Regions G and H and authorization to hold an associated public hearing regarding a subsequent 2022 State Water Plan amendment to incorporate these projects.