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ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

TO: File

FROM: T. Clay Schultz, Ph.D., Director, Regional Water Project Development

SUBJECT: Chappell Hill Water Supply Corporation, Washington County, Texas

TWDB RWAF Project No. 21839

Water System Capital Improvements Projects

Total Commitment Amount: \$4,056,503

Commitment No. G1001971

The environmental review for the Chappell Hill Water Supply Corporation's (Corporation) proposed Water System Capital Improvements project has been completed consistent with 31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 363.14. The Corporation is proposing to use \$4,056,503 in funding from the Rural Water Assistance Fund Program to install a new standpipe water storage tank, install a backup generator, and replace water mains. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) committed this funding on February 13, 2025. The Corporation closed the funding on May 16, 2025.

This environmental review is documented by the enclosed Environmental Determination, which contains mitigative environmental conditions that will be applied to the project to avoid significant adverse impact on waters of the U.S., floodplains, cultural or historical resources, threatened or endangered species, and protected migratory bird species.

Based on a detailed environmental review of the planning information, the Environmental Data Form received by the TWDB on October 24, 2025, with the supplementary materials submitted to the TWDB on October 31, 2025, the proposed project meets the requirements of 31 TAC § 363.14 with the following special and standard environmental conditions:

Special Environmental Conditions

 In accordance with an agreement with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Ecological and Environmental Planning Program (TWDB Project No. 56389), to ensure compliance with 31 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 57; Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapters 1, 12, 64, 67, and 68; the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; the Migratory Bird Treaty Act; and applicable federal regulations pertaining to protected and invasive species, the following measures will be implemented: Environmental Determination Chappell Hill Water Supply Corporation, Washington County, Texas TWDB RWAF Project No. 21839 Water System Capital Improvements Projects Page 2

- o In areas where clearing or trimming woody vegetation is necessary to install the new pipelines or create access for machinery or heavy equipment, the vegetation clearing activities or disturbance should be scheduled to occur outside of the March 15 to September 15 migratory bird nesting season, if possible. Contractors should be made aware of the potential of encountering nesting birds (either nesting or wintering) in the project area and be instructed to avoid negatively impacting them. If vegetation clearing (including groundcover and grasses) must be scheduled to occur during the nesting season, the vegetation to be impacted should be surveyed for active nests, including those of ground nesting species, by a qualified biologist in order to fully minimize any potential impacts to nesting birds. If active nests are observed during surveys, it is recommended that a 150-foot buffer of vegetation remain around the nests until the young have fledged or the nest is abandoned.
- The width of clearing of native vegetation and trees should be minimized to the extent practicable. All disturbed areas should be re-seeded with native vegetation. Recommendations for seed suitable for local use may be obtained from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service or the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.
- Pipeline trenches should be closed at the end of each day if practicable. If not, the trenches should be inspected for the presence of state-listed protected reptiles and other wildlife species that have been trapped, and prior to the re-initiation of construction, a qualified biologist should relocate any such species.
- Consistent with the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004, federal Executive Order 11988 as amended by EO 13690, Texas Water Code Section 16.315, and local floodplain development ordinances, a floodplain development permit will be obtained from the local floodplain administrator prior to construction in, across, or under a Special Flood Hazard Area, and any requirements contained therein will be adhered to.
- To avoid potential impacts to waters of the U.S., including Felchak Branch and the unnamed tributary of Cedar Creek on Chestnut Street, waterline crossings of waterbodies will be performed by a trenchless method.

Standard Environmental Conditions

- Consistent with the Texas Water Development Board Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0552), the Chappell Hill Water Supply Corporation will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of cultural resources.
- Consistent with the Texas Water Development Board Supplemental Construction Contract Conditions (TWDB-0552), the Chappell Hill Water Supply Corporation will abide by the standard emergency condition for the discovery of threatened and endangered species.

Environmental Determination Chappell Hill Water Supply Corporation, Washington County, Texas TWDB RWAF Project No. 21839 Water System Capital Improvements Projects Page 3

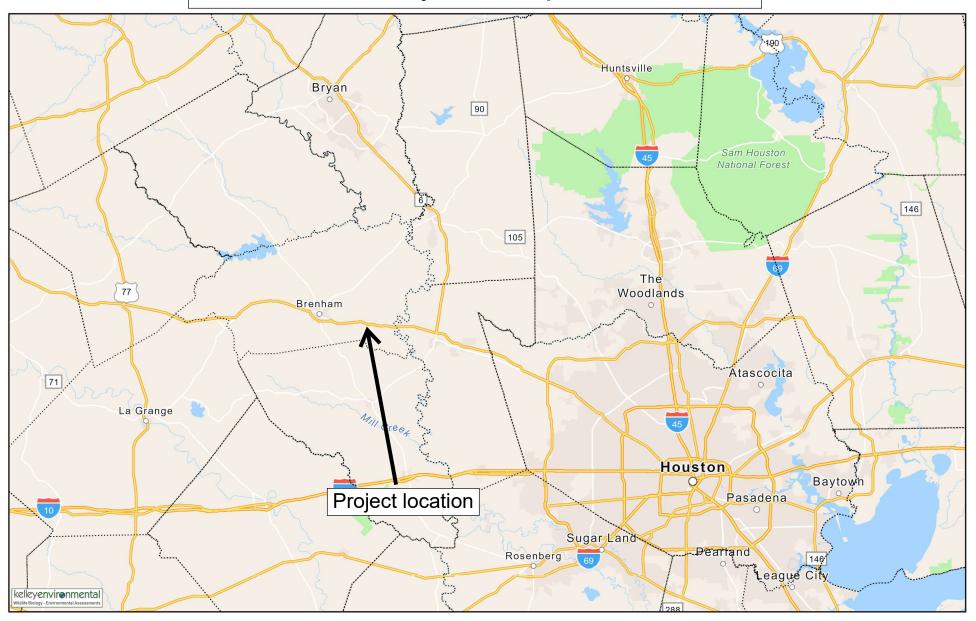
With the addition of these requirements, design funds may be released once all other requirements are satisfied.

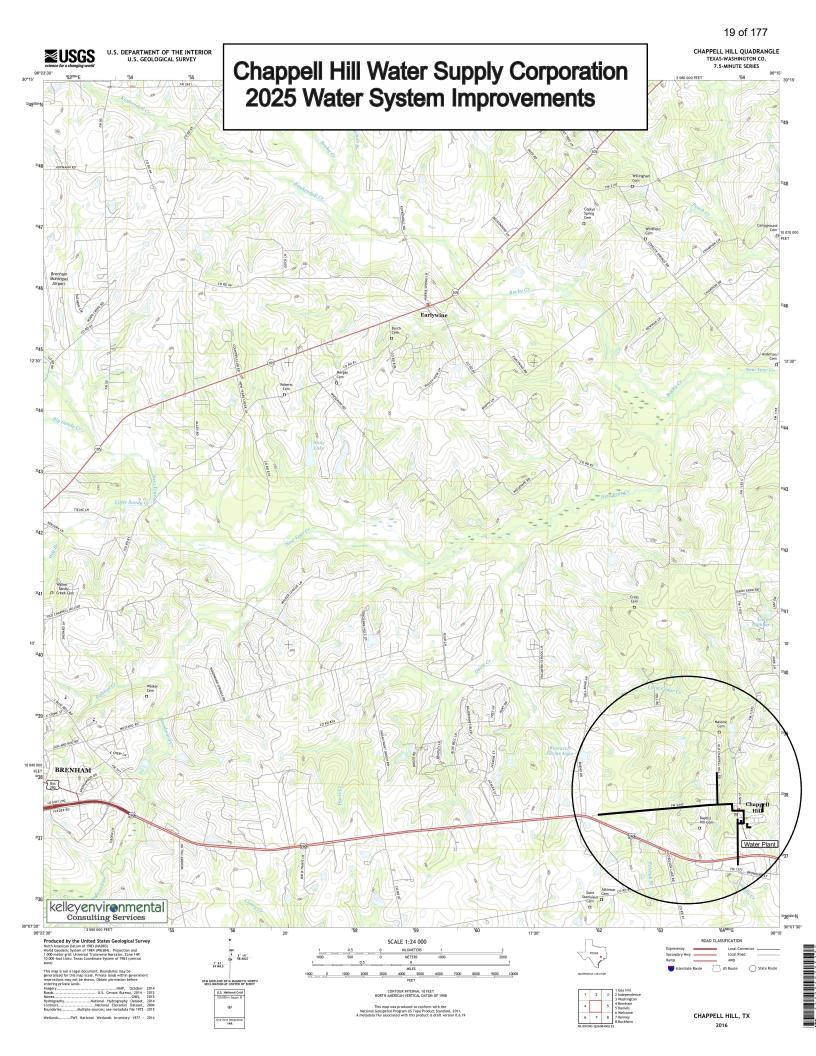
Enclosures

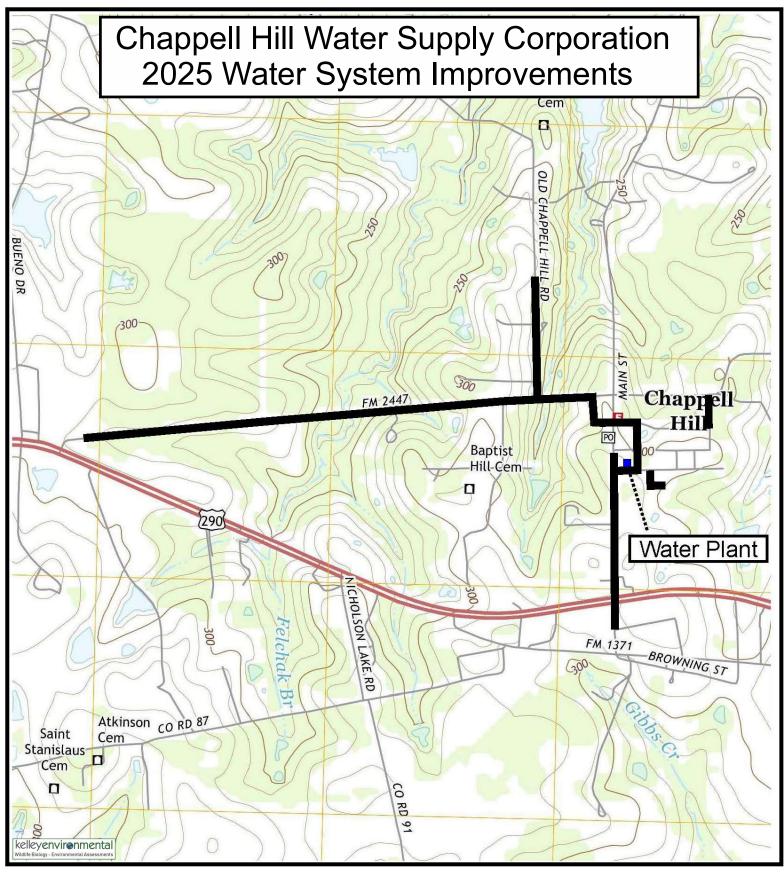
Chappell Hill Water Supply Corporation 2025 Water System Improvements



Chappell Hill Water Supply Corporation 2025 Water System Improvements







Source: USGS Washington Co, Tx 7.5 minute quadrangle

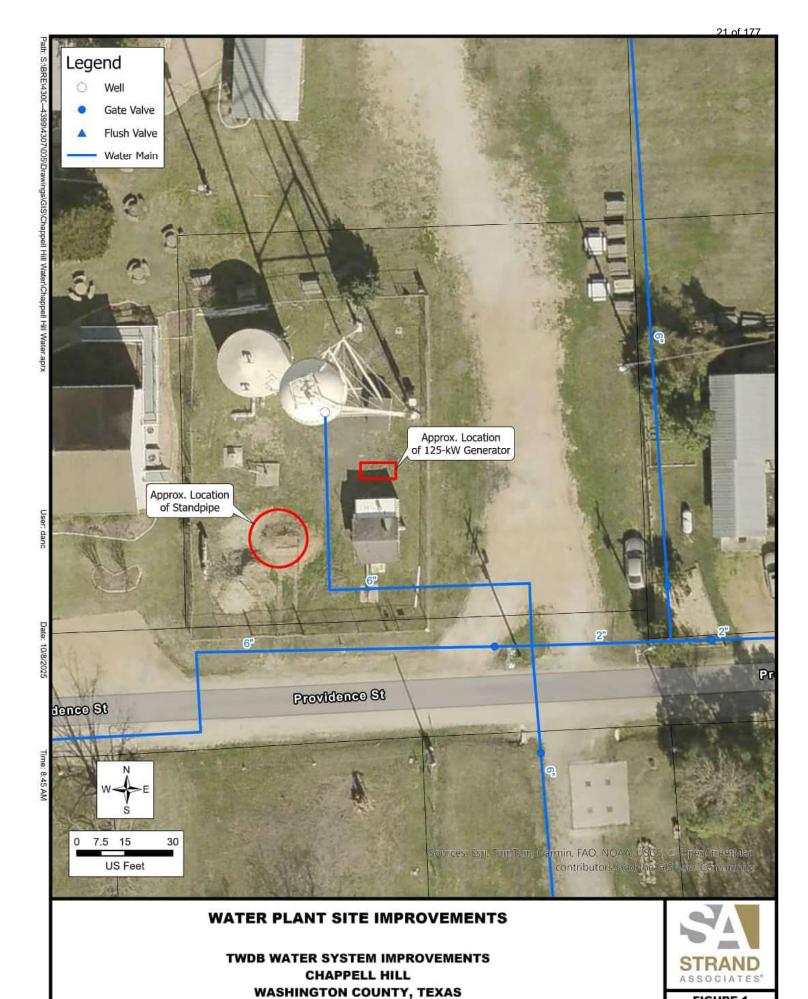
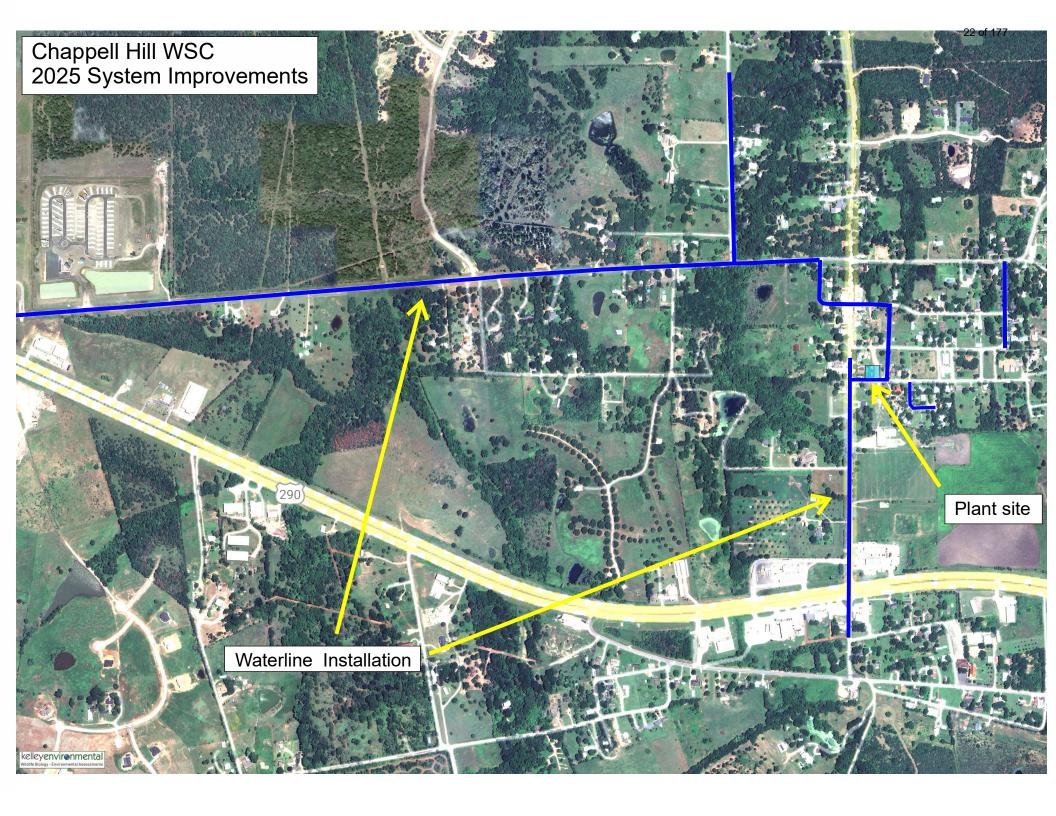


FIGURE 1 4307.005



USGS National Water Dashboard

