

GBRA WaterSECURE Project

Supply Recommendation

September 25, 2025



NBU® NEW BRAUNFELS
UTILITIES

Agenda

1. Overview of GBRA WaterSECURE
2. Triple Bottom Line Evaluation
3. Recommendation

Mission

Strengthening our community by providing resilient essential services

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Vision

Be a trusted community partner dedicated to excellence in service

+

Core Values

Safety, Team, Integrity, Culture, and Stewardship



Water Supply Overview

Aim: To meet long term regional water demands in the middle and upper Guadalupe River Basin

Firm Yield: Up to 110,000 AFY

Project Status: Early development phase; 3 alternatives under evaluation

Timeline: 60-MGD online by 2033/2034, assuming 15-year timeline

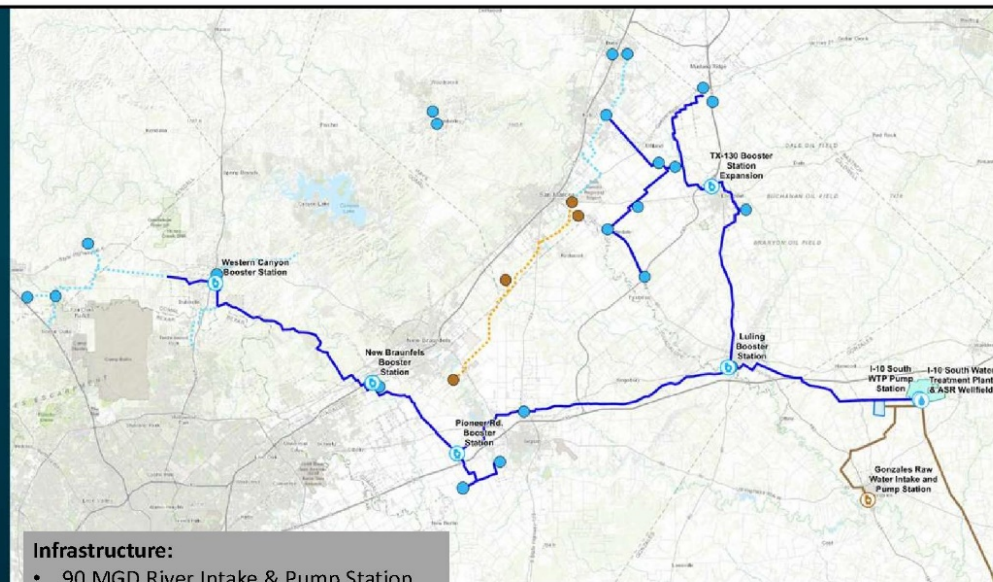
Key Infrastructure:

- 2 river diversion pump stations (Mid and Lower Basin)
- 2 off-channel reservoirs
- 140 MGD Treatment Plant
- 160 miles of local pipelines
- 5 booster pump stations

WaterSECURE Mid/Upper Basin Infrastructure

Scenario 7E

GBRA
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority



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Projected Costs & Contract

- **Total Capital Cost:** \$5.8 billion (design, permitting, ROW, construction)
- **Estimated Water Cost:** $\approx$ \$15/1,000 gallons (\$4,800/AFY)
 - Debt service: \$3,200 - \$4,300/AFY
 - O&M, power and other expenses: $\approx$ \$1,000/AFY
- **Funding Model:** Long term bonds (30-50 years); no up-front capital cost for NBU
- **Contract term:** Anticipated 60-80 years
- **Supply to NBU:** 6,000 – 8,000 AFY

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Triple Bottom Line Assessment – Economic

Aim: Being good stewards of public funds

Criteria	Score (1-5)	Justification
Annualized capital and O&M unit costs per AF	1	Cost is > \$3,000/AF
Unrestricted volume or additional capacity provided	3	4,000 AFY – 5,999 AFY water authorizations or additional capacity
Ease of treatment, transmission & operation relative to other supplies being considered	2	Somewhat more difficult to design or operate than other supplies
Time required for this water supply/management strategy to come online	3	Supply / strategy could be online in 11 – 15 years
Overall weighted economic score	2.2	

Economic rank among supplies evaluated: 18 / 19

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Triple Bottom Line Assessment – Social

Aim: Being good stewards towards the community

Criteria	Score (1-5)	Justification
Impact to customer groups or stakeholders	3	No notable impact is expected
Support of the community's social goals	3	Supports 3/5 social goals
Supply sustainability and resilience	2	Some concern that NBU's firm volume will be partially or temporarily unavailable during the expected life cycle
Regulatory, legal or public acceptance complexity	3	Average complexity, with potential for minor regulatory or legal challenges
Overall weighted social score	2.7	

Social rank among supplies evaluated: 19 / 19

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Triple Bottom Line Assessment – Environmental

Aim: Being good stewards of regional natural resources

Criteria	Score(1-5)	Justification
Impact on regional water resources	3	Not notable relative to other supplies
Impact of the water supply and/ or required construction activities on receiving water quality or terrestrial and aquatic habitats	3	Not notable relative to other supplies
Power required for transmission, treatment and distribution	1	Consumes significant power
Overall weighted environmental score	2.5	

Environmental rank among supplies evaluated: **17 / 19**

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WaterSECURE Is Not the Best Option for NBU

Concerns around this supply include:

- High costs (estimated at around \$4,800/AFY)
- Long timeline that is already behind schedule
- Contracts anticipated to be long-term (60-80 years)
- Potential for future opposition that may cause further delays
- Significant power requirements for pumping 100+ miles and for ASR
- Subject to drought curtailments (GBRA Drought Contingency Plan, 2024) and other stressors
- Opportunities for failure due to the amount of infrastructure needed
- Treatment process not directly overseen by NBU

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GBRA WaterSECURE Project

Questions?

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