



NEWS

GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY
933 EAST COURT STREET □ SEGUIN, TEXAS 78155 □ FAX [830] 379-9718

GBRA joins South Texas Water Alliance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Wednesday, December 20, 2000
Contact: Judy Gardner, [830] 379-5822, email jgardner@gbra.org

SEGUIN.....Five water agencies and one major city are joining forces to create the South Texas Water Alliance, a partnership its members hope will “ensure successful implementation of the regional water planning efforts currently underway in this area,” said Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority general manager W. E. “Bill” West, Jr.

At today’s GBRA board meeting, directors authorized their organization’s participation in the Alliance that will also include the San Antonio River Authority, the Nueces River Authority, the San Antonio Water System, the Lavaca-Navidad River Authority and the City of Corpus Christi.

According to West, the Alliance members “are drawing on lessons learned from the power utility business that the best way to successfully accomplish large, expensive projects is through cooperative partnerships. This is a logical extension of the regional water planning effort that emphasized grass-roots participation and mutual cooperation. The members of the South Texas Water Alliance share the common goal of maximizing the region’s available water resources to supply the water needs of South Texas. We believe we can best accomplish this goal by working together.”

West said the Alliance will work toward the optimal development, conservation and use of the region’s water resources. The South Texas region is experiencing rapid business and population growth – with accompanying demands for municipal water supplies. The Alliance could be a valuable resource to help the region attract and develop economic benefits that will come with the assurance of a firm future water supply.

“If federal or state funds are made available to implement these water projects, the Alliance can also serve as a conduit and may give us an advantage in the competition for funding. These mutual benefits among the Alliance partners will also result in benefits to the consumer,” West said.

The Alliance members will also look beyond their immediate region to work with other regional water planning groups. “We would like to help other entities, such as Regions L, N and P, to accomplish projects that may offer benefits and solutions beyond their geographic area,” West said.

West said it is his understanding that a similar North Texas water alliance is being pursued by water agencies in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex area.