



NEWS

GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY
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Western Canyon Project Delayed *FOCL lawsuit forces cities to pay debt service months before delivery of water*

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SEGUIN — Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) general manager Bill West met with city leaders of Bulverde, Boerne and Fair Oaks Ranch on June 15 to inform them that the Western Canyon Regional Treated Water Supply Project construction has been delayed by the Friends of Canyon Lake (FOCL) lawsuit.

The Western Canyon project was scheduled to go online in July 2005, providing up to 10,000 acre-feet of water per year from Canyon Reservoir to communities in Kendall County and western Comal County. Due to the FOCL lawsuit and appeals, the current estimate is for water delivery to begin instead in October 2005. The project's bonds were sold in April 2003, and debt service payment will begin in April 2005 — a full six months before water is delivered.

"It's unfortunate and unfair that the citizens of these communities will be penalized by FOCL's lawsuit and delaying tactics," said West. "This means that Bulverde, Boerne and Fair Oaks Ranch will have to pay their proportionate share of the approximately \$450,000 monthly debt service for an additional six months before they receive water from the project, due to FOCL's legal maneuverings."

FOCL was previously denied a hearing by the Texas Supreme Court after losing in the 353rd District Court in Travis County and the Texas Court of Appeals, Third District, and has now refiled its lawsuit in federal district court in San Antonio.

"We are confident that the federal district court will find in favor of Bulverde, Boerne and Fair Oaks," said West. "We hope that FOCL will accept that decision and allow their neighbors to have the water they so desperately need."

West said that construction on the Western Canyon project is underway at Canyon Reservoir, with a new membrane filtration plant that will provide high quality drinking water. Bids for the raw water intake structure have been received and will be awarded soon. Substantial portions of the right of way have been acquired for the pipeline, and the pipeline design is complete with awarding of bids anticipated in the next few months.

Canyon Dam and Reservoir was completed in 1964 as a joint project by the U.S. Corps of Engineers and GBRA. The Reservoir was built to provide flood control and a dependable supply of stored water for the region.