



Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority  
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Page 1 of 1  
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## **GBRA Takes Steps to Initiate a Firm Water Supply in Lower Basin**

### **For more information**

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The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's (GBRA) Board of Directors has authorized a Lower Basin Project that would help supply water for municipalities, industry and agriculture in the lower basin region.

"The goal is to construct reservoir storage in the lower basin area so that we can 'firm up' some of our existing water rights . When this project comes to fruition, it would yield a firm water supply of about 100,000 acre-feet," William "Bill" West, Jr., GBRA general manager said.

GBRA and Dow Chemical Company (Dow), individually and collectively, own surface water rights in the lower Guadalupe River Basin authorizing diversions totaling 175,501 acre-feet (ac-ft) per year. GBRA would firm up its existing interruptible lower basin water rights by storing water in a reservoir. The Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ) recently approved an administrative change to GBRA's water rights, allowing the water to be stored in a reservoir.

"Although the water in Canyon Reservoir, which is permitted for about 90,000 ac-ft, is fully committed, there remains a demand because of growth along the I-35 and Texas Hwy. 130 corridors. We may be able to relieve some of the downstream demands on Canyon with this Lower Basin Project," West explained.

The action by the Board of Directors gives GBRA staff the authorization it needs to begin the administrative , engineering, financial and legal actions for the development of the project.

The GBRA was established by the Texas Legislature in 1933 as a water conservation and reclamation district. GBRA provides stewardship for the water resources in its 10-county statutory district, which begins near the headwaters of the Guadalupe and Blanco rivers, ends at San Antonio Bay, and includes Kendall, Comal, Hays, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.