



**PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD MEETING  
AGENDA ITEM  
REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, October 8, 2025**

**SUBJECT**

Resolution for EPWater's funding request from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for the Upper Valley Surface Water Augmentation Plant project

**BACKGROUND**

To meet the water supply goals set in the utility's water resource plan, EPWater proposes to design and construct a new surface water augmentation plant at the site of the existing Upper Valley Water Treatment Plant in Northwest El Paso near the Texas-New Mexico state line, with an estimated cost of \$135,000,000. The new surface water augmentation plant would help EPWater address several key objectives: 1) protect the Mesilla Bolson for long-term sustainability through reducing groundwater pumping and by maximizing efficient use of Westside water resources, including the Rio Grande; 2) protect Texas water allocations by maximizing use of current Rio Grande allocations; and 3) increase water resilience for Northwest El Paso through added redundancy and interoperability. The TWDB funding for this project will primarily support design, environmental assessments and piloting. A feasibility study was completed in February of 2023 to support this project.

**PRIOR PSB ACTION**

- None

**UTILITY KPI ALIGNMENT**

Total Water Supply

**EVALUATION PROCESS**

This \$14,000,000 TWDB funding is a direct appropriation from the state legislature and was championed by Senator Cesar Blanco, along with Representative Mary Gonzalez, and Representative Joe Moody, who are both on the Appropriations Committee. The project is expected to be placed on the TWDB's November Board Agenda.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

EPWater will not be required to provide a funding match to receive the TWDB funds in the amount of \$14,000,000 for the project. Additional funding for the remaining project costs will be pursued.

**PROPOSED ACTION REQUESTED**

Consider and adopt a resolution authorizing the Public Service Board Secretary-Treasurer to sign all documents necessary to submit a request for funding from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for the Upper Valley Surface Water Augmentation project in the amount of \$14,000,000; and authorize the President/CEO to provide and sign any documents in connection with the funding request, agreements and receipt of funds for the project.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED**

- Resolution

(SEAL)