



**PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD MEETING
AGENDA ITEM
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, August 12, 2026**

SUBJECT

Resolution authorizing submission of a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects grant application for the Pure Water Center (PWC), formerly known as the Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF).

BACKGROUND

EPWater desires to submit a grant application due August 26, 2026, to pursue funding for the PWC, formerly known as the AWPF. The USBR has a grant funding opportunity under the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects program. EPWater has previously sought and received USBR funding for this project in the amount of \$24,250,000. The program uses a competitive selection process and requires a non-federal cost share. EPWater will request \$6,000,000 in federal funding and commit a minimum non-federal funding match of \$18,000,000.

PRIOR PSB ACTION

- On January 11, 2017, the Public Service Board (PSB) authorized submission of a USBR Title XVI WaterSMART application requesting \$750,000 for the 30 percent design of the AWPF, with a \$2,250,000 EPWater match.
- On April 10, 2019, the PSB authorized submission of a USBR WaterSMART Title XVI application requesting \$3,500,000 for pilot testing and completion of design for the AWPF.
- On March 9, 2022, the PSB authorized submission of a USBR WaterSMART Title XVI WIIN Act application requesting \$20,000,000 for final design, construction management services, equipment, and construction of the AWPF, with a \$60,000,000 EPWater commitment.

UTILITY KPI ALIGNMENT

Total Water Supply

EVALUATION PROCESS

The USBR requires a PSB resolution authorizing the President/CEO to sign and submit the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects grant application.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This expenditure is part of the approved budget.

PROPOSED ACTION REQUESTED

Consider and adopt a resolution authorizing the President/CEO or designee to submit a grant application to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation under the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects grant opportunity in the amount of \$6,000,000 for the Pure Water Center project, formerly Advanced Water Purification Facility; authorize EPWater's funding commitment of up to \$18,000,000 non-federal match if grant funds are awarded; and further authorize the President/CEO or designee to provide and sign any documents in connection with the grant application, grant agreement, and acceptance of funds for this project.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED

- Resolution

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT/CEO'S SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION (USBR) UNDER FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBER R26AS00079, "WATERSMART: TITLE XVI WIIN ACT WATER RECLAMATION AND REUSE PROJECTS," IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,000,000 IN GRANT FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES, EQUIPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION COSTS FOR THE ADVANCED WATER PURIFICATION FACILITY, NOW KNOWN AS THE PURE WATER CENTER, IN EL PASO, TEXAS; AUTHORIZING EL PASO WATER'S COMMITMENT TO ALLOCATE AN ESTIMATED \$18,000,000; AND AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT/CEO TO PROVIDE AND SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS NECESSARY IN CONNECTION WITH THE GRANT APPLICATION, GRANT AGREEMENT, AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE FUNDS FOR THIS PROJECT.

WHEREAS, the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board (EPWater) was established on May 22, 1952, by Ordinance No. 752 of the City of El Paso for the purpose of providing potable water and wastewater collection and treatment for the City of El Paso; and

WHEREAS, EPWater has historically partnered with grant agencies to obtain funding for water treatment, water conservation, water reuse and recycling, membrane treatment processes, water supply improvements, and other projects intended to improve the quality, reliability, and resiliency of water services within the service area of El Paso; and

WHEREAS, EPWater has historically applied for and received U.S. Bureau of Reclamation grant funding for numerous water resource, conservation, infrastructure, reverse osmosis, water treatment, water supply, monitoring, and reclaimed water projects; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has released Funding Opportunity Number R26AS00079, WaterSMART: Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects, soliciting eligible proposals for project funding and requiring a resolution authorizing submission of a formal application for such funds; and

WHEREAS, EPWater determined that the Advanced Water Purification Facility Project, now known as the Pure Water Center, including construction management services, equipment, and construction, meets the objectives and eligibility requirements of the funding opportunity;

WHEREAS, the funding opportunity provides for a maximum federal award of \$40,000,000; and EPWater has received \$24,250,000 in previous awards for the project; and EPWater is seeking a \$6,00,000 in additional funding; and EPWater is prepared to provide the 75% matching funding in the amount of \$18,000,000 if awarded; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EL PASO WATER UTILITIES PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD OF THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS:

Section 1. That the findings and recitations set out in the preamble to this Resolution are found to be true and correct and are hereby adopted by the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board and made a part of this Resolution for all purposes.

Section 2. That the Public Service Board hereby authorizes the President/CEO to sign and submit any and all documents required for submission of a grant application to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation under Funding Opportunity Number R26AS00079, “WaterSMART: Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects” in the amount of \$6,000,000 for the construction management services, equipment, and construction of the Advanced Water Purification Project, now known as the Pure Water Center.

Section 3. The Public Service Board authorizes EPWater’s funding commitment to provide an estimated \$18,000,000 in matching funds if grant funding is awarded.

Section 4. If awarded, EPWater agrees to work with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to satisfy all grant requirements, including applicable deadlines, environmental compliance, engineering requirements, reporting, and accounting procedures.

PASSED AND APPROVED at the regular meeting of the Public Service Board, this 12th day of August 2026, at which meeting a quorum was present, held in accordance with the provisions of Texas Government Code, Sections 551.001, et seq.

**EL PASO WATER UTILITIES
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD**

Dr. Anna Gitter, Chair

ATTEST:

Stefanie Block, Secretary-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Daniel Ortiz, General Counsel