



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES AND LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE  
IMPROVEMENTS FOCUS OF LATEST BOARD MEETING**

Milano, TX - In its ongoing commitment to transparency and effective groundwater management, the Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District (POSGCD) conducted a board meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2024. The meeting featured substantial discussions on groundwater conservation initiatives, updates on the Vista Ridge Project, and the extension of grants to local water utilities.

**EPCOR Updates and Vista Ridge Production**

During the meeting, Stefan Schuester, Director of Operations at EPCOR, gave updates on the results of a now-expired temporary amendment to their 2004 operating permit, which was granted to explore the possibility of transitioning some water extracted from the Carrizo to the deeper Simsboro aquifer. This shift was designed to alleviate pressure on the Carrizo aquifer, potentially stabilizing water levels for many local groundwater users who rely on it. Schuester said EPCOR plans to request a permanent amendment within the next 60 days after successfully managing to adjust pumping to be 76% from Carrizo and 24% from Simsboro with the temporary amendment, aiming for a final goal of 82% from Carrizo and 18% from Simsboro. This proposed amendment does not change the amount of water originally permitted but redistributes where it is pumped from within the confines of District regulations and State law. EPCOR is addressing mechanical challenges to meet that final goal and is in the process of receiving bids to drill an estimated \$8 million well granted in the original permit to reach the Simsboro aquifer to meet the target ratio.

The District remains committed to rigorous evaluation of all permit applications to ensure compliance with state standards and our regional water management goals. A comprehensive review of all district permits is set for January 1, 2025, and will recur every five years to ensure compliance and alignment with the latest scientific data and regulatory guidelines. Regular permit reviews ensure that our long-term water management strategies protect local aquifers and secure sustainable water resources for all residents.

For additional information and access to original documents related to the Vista Ridge project, including monthly reports, please visit the Vista Ridge Dashboard located under the "News" tab on our main page. All pertinent documents and materials are currently being compiled to ensure comprehensive public access and transparency.

**Grant Extensions to Strengthen Local Water Infrastructure**

The Board approved extensions for groundwater conservation grants for the City of Deanneville Water Supply Corporation, City of Thorndale, Clay Water Supply, and Marlow Water Supply Corporation. This extension

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*At Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District we aim to secure water for future generations through data collection, mentoring, regulation, and public education, in alignment with the Texas Water Code's preference for groundwater conservation districts. Learn more at: [www.posgcd.org](http://www.posgcd.org).*

allows for continued improvements in local water infrastructure to protect and conserve the community's groundwater resources. A total of \$17.3 million has been invested since the start of the program, and saved an estimated 222 million gallons of water since it began in 2006 to safeguard and conserve our resources by funding the replacement of aged pipelines, installation of new meters, and other conservation measures while preventing additional financial burdens on local water users.

### **Operational Updates to Enhance Service Delivery**

The Board also addressed several operational matters to maintain and enhance service standards. Decisions included the procurement of a new downhole camera and the update of the vehicle fleet, which ensures that field technicians are equipped with reliable and efficient transportation. The necessity of obtaining additional storage space was discussed, a decision driven by the conversion of a former storage area into office spaces to accommodate the expanding staff needs.

### **Looking Ahead**

The District remains dedicated to its core mission of conserving and protecting its groundwater resources. As we move forward, the Board remains committed to ensuring the longevity and safety of our water resources through strategic management and community-focused initiatives. The next board meeting will be held on May 14, 2024.