



Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title:	Receive report from EAA staff regarding background water level and water quality findings associated with New Braunfels Utilities' development of an aquifer storage and recovery system in the brackish portion of the Edwards Aquifer.				

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Receive report from EAA staff regarding background water level and water quality findings associated with New Braunfels Utilities' development of an aquifer storage and recovery system in the brackish portion of the Edwards Aquifer.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

None. This item is for informational purposes only.

SUMMARY:

The purpose of this technical briefing is for the board to receive a report from EAA staff summarizing information gathered to prepare the background water level and water quality report associated with New Braunfels Utilities' development of an aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) system.

New Braunfels Utilities (NBU) is currently conducting field testing activities to evaluate a potential ASR system within the brackish water zone of the Edwards Aquifer. In 2017, the EAA and NBU executed an interlocal cooperative contract (NBU-ILA) to ensure adequate measures were in place to protect Comal Springs water quality and flow. The NBU-ILA outlines a phased approach to the ASR evaluation and approval process and delineates responsibilities assigned to EAA and NBU during each phase. A background water level and water quality report, developed by the EAA, and an associated water quality sampling and monitoring plan, developed by NBU, must be completed and approved by the EAA General Manager to complete the Preliminary Work Phase and move into the Demonstration Well Phase of the ASR project.

Mr. Paul Bertetti, Director-Aquifer Science will present (i) preliminary findings regarding potential impacts to Comal Springs from ASR operations, (ii) recommendations for monitoring and sampling during future ASR project phases, and (iii) recommendations for modifications to the NBU-ILA based

on results of the background studies.

STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE:

This agenda item supports the EAA's policy direction as set forth in the EAA 2016-20 Strategic Plan:

Goal C. Identify and Address Recharge Initiatives for the Edwards Aquifer

Goal E. Conduct Research that Enhances Understanding and Effective Management of the Aquifer