# Texas Groundwater Protection Committee Groundwater Issues Subcommittee Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027 Activity Plan

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#### 1. Introduction

This Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Groundwater Issues (GWI) Subcommittee *Activity Plan* will be in effect on September 1, 2025. It will then be reviewed, updated, and replaced by a new edition of the *Activity Plan* to be in effect on September 1, 2027. *Activity Plans* approved by the TGPC will be posted on the TGPC GWI Subcommittee webpage<sup>1</sup>. An *Activity Plan* may be updated at any time upon approval of the TGPC GWI Subcommittee and the TGPC.

#### 2. Accomplishments Under the Previous *Activity Plan*

In Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025, the TGPC GWI Subcommittee approved:

- 2023 Groundwater Quality Monitoring Survey;
- · Groundwater Quality Protection Through Monitoring white paper; and,
- · Children's Health and Groundwater Quality at Child Care Operations Using Private Water Wells white paper.

### 3. White Papers

Using the outline posted on the TGPC GWI Subcommittee webpage, develop white papers on one or more of the following topics:

- Oil & Gas Produced Water:
- · Emerging Chemical and Biological Contaminants;
- Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR);
- Abandoned Water Wells:
- · Groundwater Quality Monitoring;
- Brackish Groundwater;
- · Evapotranspiration Networks; and,
- Others.

#### White papers will:

- · Summarize the best available scientific data on a specific groundwater issue;
- Identify areas where there is insufficient scientific data to thoroughly assess the issue;

- Evaluate the effectiveness of existing regulatory programs to address the issue; and,
- · Provide recommendations or policy options to the TGPC regarding the issue.

White papers approved by the TGPC will be posted on the TGPC White Papers webpage<sup>2</sup>. Recommendations and/or policy options (including the pros and cons for each option) in approved TGPC GWI Subcommittee white papers may be included in future TGPC legislative reports and/or issued by the TGPC as policy statements. The TGPC GWI Subcommittee may request assistance from the TGPC Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee in disseminating white paper information to the public.

### 4. Status Reports

At every TGPC GWI Subcommittee quarterly meeting, report and discuss the status of:

- · The TGPC GWI Subcommittee Agricultural Chemicals Task Force; and,
- TGPC and TCEQ groundwater-related publications.

The current version of each status report will be posted on the TGPC GWI Subcommittee webpage.

The TGPC GWI Subcommittee Agricultural Chemicals Task Force Status Report will include updates on:

- Groundwater monitoring for pesticides;
- The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Interagency Pesticide Database (IPD)<sup>3</sup>;
- · Public outreach and education related to pesticides;
- Pesticide management plans<sup>4</sup>;
- The Pesticides of INterest Tracking System (POINTS) pesticide assessment database; and,
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) meetings and conferences related to pesticides.

The TGPC Publications Status Report will include updates on the:

- Annual Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report 20nn ("Joint Report"), TCEQ publication number SFR-565;
- · Biennial Activities and Recommendations of the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee: Report to the nnth Legislature ("Legislative Report"), TCEQ SFR-476;
- Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy ("Strategy"), TCEQ AS-1887;
- Landowner's Guide to Plugging Abandoned Water Wells ("Plugging document"), TCEQ RG-347/347esp8;
- Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC trifold brochure), TCEQ GI-889.
- Biennial Groundwater Assessment (TCEQ AS-465) for the *Texas Integrated Report* for Clean Water Act Sections 305(b) and 303(d) ("Texas Integrated Report") 10; and,
- Biennial Priority Groundwater Management Areas and Groundwater Conservation Districts, Report to the nn<sup>th</sup> Legislature ("PGMA/GCD Legislative Report", TCEQ SFR-53)<sup>11</sup>.

## 5. Annual Report

Review the TGPC GWI Subcommittee *Annual Report* at the First Quarter meeting of each Fiscal Year. After any proposed updates to the *Annual Report* are approved by the Subcommittee, the *Annual Report* will be presented to the TGPC at their next meeting. *Annual Reports* will be posted on the TGPC GWI Subcommittee webpage.

## 6. Subcommittee Charge

Review the TGPC GWI Subcommittee *Charge*<sup>12</sup> at the Fourth Quarter meeting of each Fiscal Year. After any proposed updates to the *Charge* are approved by the Subcommittee, they will be presented to the TGPC for approval at their next meeting. For example, Co-Chairs serve for the biennium, and the TGPC may elect to rotate Co-Chairs among member agencies in order to appropriately focus on changing groundwater issues.

# 7. Activity Plan Update

Begin work on the next edition of the *Activity Plan* at the Second Quarter meeting of Fiscal Year 2027 so that it will be in effect as of September 1, 2027. After the updated *Activity Plan* is approved by the Subcommittee at their Fourth Quarter meeting of Fiscal Year 2027, it will be presented to the TGPC for approval at their next meeting.

# 8. Schedule

	10EV	20EV	20EV	4OEV	1OEV	2OEV	2OEV	4OEV
	1QFY	2QFY	3QFY	4QFY	1QFY	2QFY	3QFY	4QFY
	2026	2026	2026	2026	2027	2027	2027	2027
	Sept 2025	Dec	Mar	June	Sept	Dec	Mar	June
GWI Subcommittee Activity		2025	2026	2026	2026	2026	2027	2027
Develop and approve white papers to be presented								
to the TGPC for approval at their next meeting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Report and discuss the status of the TGPC Agricultural Chemicals Task Force and TGPC and								
TCEQ groundwater-related publications	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Review and approve the <i>Annual Report</i> to be presented to the TGPC at their next meeting	X				X			
Review and approve any proposed updates to the Charge to be presented to the TGPC for approval at								
their next meeting				X				X
Develop the next edition of the <i>Activity Plan</i>						X	X	
Review and approve the next edition of the <i>Activity Plan</i> to be presented to the TGPC for approval at								
their next meeting								X

#### 9. References

- $^1\,TGPC\;GWI\;Subcommittee, \\ \underline{https://tgpc.texas.gov/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-groundwater-issues-subcommittee/}$
- <sup>2</sup> TGPC white papers, <a href="https://tgpc.texas.gov/white-papers/">https://tgpc.texas.gov/white-papers/</a>
- $^3\ IPD, \ \underline{https://www.tceq.texas.gov/groundwater/groundwater-planning-assessment/pesticides.html}$
- <sup>4</sup> Texas State Management Plan for Prevention of Pesticide Contamination of Groundwater, TCEQ SFR-070, <a href="https://wayback.archive-it.org/414/20210904135754/https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm\_exec/pubs/sfr/070\_01.pdf">https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm\_exec/pubs/sfr/070\_01.pdf</a>
- <sup>5</sup> Current *Joint Report*, <a href="https://www.tceq.texas.gov/groundwater/groundwater-planning-assessment/sfr-056-joint-groundwater-monitoring-contamination-report">https://www.tceq.texas.gov/groundwater/groundwater-planning-assessment/sfr-056-joint-groundwater-monitoring-contamination-report</a> <sup>6</sup> Current *Legislative Report*,

 $\frac{https://www.tceq.texas.gov/downloads/groundwater/publications/sfr-47-24-tgpc-report-89th-legislature.pdf}{}$ 

- <sup>7</sup> Strategy, <a href="https://www.tceq.texas.gov/downloads/groundwater/publications/as-188-texas-groundwater-protection-strategy.pdf">https://www.tceq.texas.gov/downloads/groundwater/publications/as-188-texas-groundwater-protection-strategy.pdf</a>
- <sup>8</sup> Plugging document,

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/downloads/groundwater/publications/landowners-guide-to-plugging-abandoned-water-wells-rg-347.pdf and

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/downloads/groundwater/publications/guia-del-terrateniente-para-tapar-pozos-de-agua-abandonados-rg-347esp.pdf

<sup>9</sup> TGPC trifold brochure.

 $\frac{https://www.tceq.texas.gov/downloads/groundwater/publications/gi-088-texas-groundwater-protection-committee.pdf$ 

10 Current Texas Integrated Report,

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/assessment/305 303.html

<sup>11</sup> Current PGMA/GCD Legislative Report,

 $\frac{https://www.tceq.texas.gov/downloads/groundwater/publications/sfr-53-24-pgma-gcd-report-89th-legislature.pdf}{\ }$ 

12 TGPC GWI Subcommittee Charge, https://tgpc.texas.gov/wp-content/themes/responsive/subcommittees/gwissues/GWI\_SubComm\_Charge12Jul2023.pdf