

Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC)
Groundwater Issues (GWI) Subcommittee Annual Report
October 23, 2019

This Annual Report is provided as per the TGPC GWI Subcommittee (“Subcommittee”) *Charge*¹.

Fiscal Year 2019 Results

- The Subcommittee met four times during the past fiscal year:
 - September 5, 2018;
 - January 16, 2019;
 - March 6, 2019; and,
 - June 12, 2019.
- At their meetings, the Subcommittee received reports from its Agricultural Chemicals Task Force, tracked the status of the TGPC’s publications, and discussed the following groundwater-related issues:
 - Water Supply Enhancement Program;
 - Hydraulic Fracturing;
 - Emerging Contaminants;
 - Saline Groundwater Trends and Impacts in Texas;
 - Agricultural Chemicals;
 - Border Groundwater;
 - Aquifer Storage and Recovery;
 - Abandoned Water Wells;
 - Failing Septic Systems; and,
 - Others (e.g., using the Texas Water Development Board’s (TWDB’s) groundwater database for storing bacterial contamination information, a United States Geological Survey (USGS) meeting on September 5, 2018 regarding a Geoenvironmental Assessment of a portion of the Texas Gulf Coast Uranium Resources Pilot Study, and coal ash from power plants).

¹ https://tgpc.texas.gov/wp-content/themes/responsive/subcommittees/gwissues/GWI_SubComm_Charge10Jul2019.pdf

- The Subcommittee reviewed its *Charge* and had some changes to recommend to the TGPC that would better reflect the intent of the current *Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy* (“*Strategy*”)².
- The Subcommittee approved the following white papers during the past fiscal year:
 - *How is Groundwater Quality Affected by Failing On-site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs) ?*;
 - *How is Groundwater Quality Affected by Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) ?*; and,
 - *Transboundary Groundwater Resources along the Texas-Mexico Border*.
- The Subcommittee approved its *TGPC GWI Subcommittee Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021 Activity Plan*.

Fiscal Year 2020 Plans

- The Subcommittee will develop white papers on various topics, including:
 - Aquifer Storage and Recovery;
 - Abandoned Water Wells;
 - Wellhead Impacts After Natural Disasters; and,
 - Anthropogenic Mixing of Groundwater.

² https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm_exec/pubs/as/188.pdf