

Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC)
Groundwater Issues (GWI) Subcommittee Annual Report
October 18, 2023

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

Fiscal Year 2023 Results

- The Subcommittee met^{1,2} four times during Fiscal Year 2023:
 - September 7, 2022;
 - December 7, 2022;
 - March 8, 2023; and,
 - June 14, 2023.
- At these meetings, the Subcommittee received reports from its Agricultural Chemicals Task Force, tracked the status of both TGPC and groundwater-related TCEQ publications, and discussed the following groundwater-related issues:
 - Oil and Gas Produced Water;
 - Emerging Contaminants;
 - Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR);
 - Abandoned Water Wells;
 - Brackish Groundwater;
 - Evapotranspiration Networks; and,
 - Others:
 - § Climate-driven flooding posing well water contamination risks;
 - § A new Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) interactive map of orphaned oil and gas wells that were being plugged with the use of federal funding; and,
 - § A proposed survey regarding groundwater quality databases and data collection programs in Texas.
- As per its TGPC GWI Subcommittee Fiscal Year 2022 – 2023 *Activity Plan*³, the Subcommittee reviewed its *Charge*⁴ during its fourth quarter meeting and approved an update that fixed two broken links. The TGPC approved the updated *Charge*⁵ on July 12, 2023.

- The Subcommittee approved the *Abandoned Water Wells and the Challenges They Pose and Prioritizing New Drinking Water Infrastructure Funding in Texas* white papers⁶, and the TGPC approved them on April 19, 2023.
- As per its *Charge*, the Subcommittee approved its TGPC GWI Subcommittee Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 *Activity Plan*⁷, and the TGPC approved it on July 12, 2023.
- The Subcommittee conducted an online Groundwater Quality Monitoring Survey on June 15 – July 28, 2023⁸.

Fiscal Year 2024 Plans

- During Fiscal Year 2024, the Subcommittee will continue developing white papers on various topics, including:
 - *Children’s Health and Groundwater Quality in Private Water Wells in Child Care Operations in Texas.*

¹ The TGPC approves all Subcommittee products and designated TGPC members who attended these Subcommittee meetings participated as an employee or representative of their agency or organization, not as a designated TGPC member. Therefore, these Subcommittee meetings were not subject to the Open Meetings Act and they were held 100% virtually. The public was also able to attend these meetings via videoconference or teleconference at no cost.

² <https://tgpc.texas.gov/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-groundwater-issues-subcommittee/meeting-records-of-the-tgpc-groundwater-issues-subcommittee/>

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https://tgpc.texas.gov/gwissues/activity_plans/TGPC_GWI_FY2022_2023_ActivityPlan_14Jul2021.pdf

⁴ https://tgpc.texas.gov/wp-content/themes/responsive/subcommittees/gwissues/GWI_SubComm_Charge10Jul2019.pdf

⁵ https://tgpc.texas.gov/wp-content/themes/responsive/subcommittees/gwissues/GWI_SubComm_Charge12Jul2023.pdf

⁶ <https://tgpc.texas.gov/white-papers/>

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https://tgpc.texas.gov/gwissues/activity_plans/TGPC_GWI_FY2024_2025_ActivityPlan_12Jul2023.pdf

⁸ https://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/data/wq_surv.asp