# TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



### AN ORDER

concerning the application by the City of Corpus Christi for Water Use Permit No. 13675; TCEQ Docket No. 2023-1664-WR.

On March 28, 2024, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (Commission) considered during its open meeting the requests for a contested case hearing concerning the application by the City of Corpus Christi for Water Use Permit No. 13675 in San Patricio, Nueces, and Aransas Counties. The requests for hearing were evaluated under the requirements in the applicable statutes and Commission rules, including 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 55. The Commission also considered the responses to the requests for hearing filed by the Executive Director, the Office of Public Interest Counsel, and the Applicant; the timely filed reply by a hearing requester; all timely public comment; and the Executive Director's Response to Comments.

After an evaluation of all relevant filings, the Commission determined to deny all hearing requests. The Commission also issued Water Use Permit No. 13675 to the City of Corpus Christi, as recommended by the Executive Director.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY that:

- 1. All hearing requests are hereby DENIED;
- 2. Water Use Permit No. 13675 is ISSUED to the City of Corpus Christi, as recommended by the Executive Director; and

3. If any provision, sentence, clause or phrase of this Order is for any reason held to be invalid, the invalidity of any portion shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Order.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMEN/TAL QUALITY

For the Commission

Date Signed

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



# WATER USE PERMIT

**PERMIT NO. 13675** 

TYPE §§ 11.121 & 11.085

Permittee:

City of Corpus Christi

Address:

P.O. Box 9277

Corpus Christi, Texas 78469

Filed:

Purpose:

May 5, 2020

Christi Bay)

Granted:

Municipal & Industrial

Counties:

San Patricio, Nueces, and

Aransas

Watercourse: La Quinta Channel (Corpus

Watershed:

San Antonio-Nueces Coastal

Basin

WHEREAS, City of Corpus Christi (Applicant), seeks a water use permit to authorize the diversion and use of not to exceed 186,295 acre-feet of water per year, at a maximum diversion rate of 257 cfs (115,349.31 gpm), from a diversion reach on La Quinta Channel (Corpus Christi Bay), San Antonio-Nueces Coastal Basin in San Patricio County for municipal and industrial purposes within the City's wholesale water service area in San Patricio, Nueces and Aransas counties; and

WHEREAS, the proposed upper limit of the diversion reach is located at Latitude 27.877731° N, Longitude 97.256667° W; and

WHEREAS, the proposed lower limit of the diversion reach is located at Latitude 27.876264° N, Longitude 97.251111° W; and

WHEREAS, Applicant also seeks an exempt interbasin transfer of up to 186,295 acre-feet of water per year to the portion of San Patricio County in the Nueces River Basin and the portion of Nueces County in the Nueces-Rio Grande Coastal Basin within the City's wholesale water service area; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality finds that jurisdiction over the application is established; and

WHEREAS, this permit, if granted, is subject to requirements and orders of the South Texas Watermaster; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality finds that the issuance of the permit is consistent with the goals and policies of the Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP); and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director recommends that special conditions be included in the permit; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has complied with the requirements of the Texas Water Code and Rules of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in issuing this permit.

NOW, THEREFORE, this permit, designated Water Use Permit No. 13675, is issued to The City of Corpus Christi subject to the following terms and conditions:

#### 1. USE

- A. Permittee is authorized to divert and use not to exceed 186,295 acre-feet of water per year from a diversion reach on La Quinta Channel (Corpus Christi Bay), San Antonio-Nueces Coastal Basin for municipal and industrial purposes within its wholesale water service area in San Patricio, Nueces and Aransas counties.
- B. Permittee is also authorized an exempt interbasin transfer of up to 186,295 acre-feet of water per year to the portion of San Patricio County in the Nueces River Basin and the portion of Nueces County in the Nueces-Rio Grande Coastal Basin within the City's wholesale water service area.

## 2. DIVERSION

- A. Permittee is authorized to divert from a reach along LaQuinta Channel (Corpus Christi Bay), San Antonio-Nueces Coastal Basin in San Patricio County, defined as follows:
  - 1. Upper limit of the diversion reach is located at Latitude 27.877731° N, Longitude 97.256667° W.
  - 2. Lower limit of the diversion reach is located at Latitude 27.876264° N, Longitude 97.251111° W.
- B. Maximum combined diversion rate: 257 cfs (115,349.31 gpm).

#### 3. PRIORITY

The time priority of this water right is May 5, 2020.

#### 4. CONSERVATION

Permittee shall implement water conservation plans that provide for the utilization of those practices, techniques, and technologies that reduce or maintain the consumption of water, prevent or reduce the loss or waste of water, maintain or improve the efficiency in the use of water, increase the recycling and reuse of water, and prevent the pollution of water, so that a water supply is made available for future or alternative uses. Such plans shall include a requirement that every water supply contract entered into on or after the effective date of this permit, including any contract extension or renewal, that each successive wholesale customer develops and implements conservation measures. If the customer intends to resell the water, then the contract for resale of the water shall have water conservation requirements so that each successive customer in the resale of the water will be required to implement water conservation measures.

#### 5. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- A. The special conditions in this permit are subject to adjustment by the commission if the commission determines, through an expedited public review process, that such adjustment is appropriate to achieve compliance with applicable environmental flow standards adopted pursuant to Texas Water Code § 11.1471. Any adjustment shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Texas Water Code § 11.1471(e-1).
- B. Permittee shall implement reasonable measures in order to reduce impacts to aquatic resources due to entrainment or impingement. Such measures shall include, but shall not be limited to, the installation of screens at the diversion structure(s).
- C. Permittee shall install and maintain a measuring device which accounts for, within 5% accuracy, the quantity of water diverted from the reach authorized above in Paragraph 2. DIVERSION and maintain measurement records.
- D. Permittee shall allow representatives of the South Texas Watermaster reasonable access to the property to inspect the measuring device and records.
- E. Permittee shall contact the South Texas Watermaster prior to diversion of water authorized by this permit.

This permit is issued subject to all superior and senior water rights in the San Antonio-Nueces Coastal Basin.

This permit is subject to the requirements and orders of the South Texas Watermaster.

Permittee agrees to be bound by the terms, conditions and provisions contained herein and such agreement is a condition precedent to the granting of this permit.

All other matters requested in the application which are not specifically granted by this permit are denied.

This permit is issued subject to the Rules of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and to the right of continuing supervision of state water resources exercised by the Commission.

For the Commission

Date Issued: 4/11/2024