



# News Release

Brazos River Authority

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*For Immediate Release*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Brazos River Authority holds formal opening of East Williamson County Regional Water Treatment System**

*October 8, 2008 -- Taylor, TX* – The Brazos River Authority (BRA) held formal ceremonies on October 8 marking the expansion of the East Williamson County Regional Water Treatment System. The regional water system's expansion provides the capability of more than 13 million gallons per day (mgd) of treated drinking water.

Formerly owned and operated by the City of Taylor, the 5.5 mgd plant was purchased in 2004 by the BRA. Expansion plans for an additional 7.5 mgd to meet both state standards and the growing needs of the region began immediately.

The \$17.4 million expansion also includes refurbishing the existing plant; replacing computer and water testing systems to compliment the new facility. Updates are expected to be complete in the next 60 days.

Permit requests for construction of an additional deep-water intake in Lake Granger are currently in process with the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Preliminary approvals for funding requests are pending with the Texas Water Development Board. If approved, the design phase for the intake structure could begin as early as November. The deep-water location of the intake will ensure the availability of water in the event of a severe drought.

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### ***About the Brazos River Authority***

The Brazos River Authority, with headquarters in Waco, is the oldest river authority in Texas. Created by the Texas Legislature in 1929, the Authority's 42,000 square-mile territory includes all or part of 65 counties; extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The Authority built, owns, and operates four reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, Limestone and Alan Henry) while contracting with the Corps of Engineers for the water supply storage

space at eight Federal multi-purpose flood control and water conservation reservoirs (Lakes Whitney, Belton, Proctor, Somerville, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown and Aquilla).

The Authority owns and operates regional wastewater systems for the Temple-Belton and Sugar Land areas. The Authority also operates wastewater treatment plants for Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System in Round Rock, the City of Hutto, the City of Georgetown and the cities of Clute-Richwood.

The Authority owns and operates a water treatment system at Lake Granbury, which supplies potable water to wholesale customers in Hood and Johnson Counties. A second potable water treatment plant located in Leander is owned jointly by the Lower Colorado River Authority and the Brazos River Authority. The Authority also engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River Basin.

For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Judi Pierce, Public Information Officer at 254-761-3103.