

**From:** [RegionalWaterPlanning](#)  
**To:** [RegionalWaterPlanning](#)  
**Cc:** [Katie Dahlberg](#); [Sarah Backhouse](#); [William Alfaro](#); [Temple McKinnon](#); [Matt Nelson](#); [Jessica Pena](#)  
**Subject:** Region M Draft Non-Municipal Projections and Supporting Data for RWPG Review  
**Date:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 12:05:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [RegionM\\_Non-Municipal\\_Jan2022.xlsx](#)  
[Draft\\_2026RWP\\_NonMunProj\\_Jan2022.zip](#)

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Dear Region M RWPG Members,

Due to the variable timing of some key supporting data (Census, modeled available groundwater, ongoing mining water use study by the Bureau of Economic Geology), the TWDB is releasing draft demand projections for certain water use categories in advance of others. Currently, the TWDB has developed draft water demand projections for the 2026 Regional Water Plans for

- livestock,
- manufacturing, and
- steam-electric power.

The remaining draft projections (irrigation, mining, population, and municipal demands) will be released for your review at a future date.

The livestock, manufacturing, and steam-electric power data is attached for your planning group to begin review and also available on our website, along with interactive dashboards:

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/data/projections/2027/projections.asp>

Planning groups are asked to review these draft projections and, if applicable, request changes to the projections by returning the attached draft projections Excel workbook with the specific requested changes and along with the necessary supporting documentation for each. Section 2.2 of the General Guidelines for Development of the 2026 Regional Water Plans (Exhibit C) addresses projections and allowable revision criteria and is available on our [website](#). Please note that the methodology for developing manufacturing water demand projections has been revised since publication of Exhibit C and the updated revision criteria for this methodology is also attached (item vii listed below). This information will be incorporated into the next version of Exhibit C during a future contract amendment.

The deadline for submitting all requested revisions to draft non-municipal water demand projections is **July 2023**, although regions and their consultants are **strongly encouraged** to communicate with the TWDB staff and submit change requests and supporting documentation as early as possible to allow adequate time for evaluation and follow up, as needed.

Attached are two files:

1. Region-specific draft projections in Excel workbook with historical data and region request format for all three water demand category projections
2. Zipped file, which contains:
  - i. Livestock projections methodology summary
  - ii. Livestock supporting data
  - iii. Livestock draft projections for all counties, split by region, in Texas

- iv. Manufacturing projections methodology summary
- v. Manufacturing supporting data
- vi. Manufacturing draft projections for all counties, split by region, in Texas
- vii. Revised Exhibit C Section 2.2.2 excerpt related to manufacturing
- viii. Steam-electric power projections methodology summary
- ix. Steam-electric power supporting data
- x. Steam-electric power draft projections for all counties, split by region, in Texas

**Please use the region request format in the Region\_Non-Municipal\_Jan2022 Excel workbook to submit the RWPG's formal revision requests to the draft projections.**

Anticipated timeline for the remaining projections development:

- **March 2022** – TWDB staff will distribute historical population and GPCD for municipal utility Water User Groups.
- **Summer 2022** – Updated Exhibit C (with all planning tasks to complete the 2026 Regional Water Plans) will be distributed.
- **July 2022** – Deadline for RWPGs to request changes to historical data for municipal utility Water User Groups.
- **August 2022** – TWDB staff will distribute draft irrigation and mining water demand projections.
- **February 2023** – TWDB staff will distribute draft population projections, plumbing code savings projections, and municipal demand projections.
- **July 2023** – Deadline for RWPGs to request changes to draft non-municipal demand projections.
- **August 2023** – Deadline for RWPGs to request changes to draft population and municipal demand projections.
- **October 2023** – TWDB staff will present all projections to the Board for approval.

Some key points regarding these water demand projections include:

- **Livestock:**
  - Same methodology as previous planning cycle.
  - Projection trends in the 2021 RWP carried over to the 2026 RWP.
  - Updates to species-specific water use coefficients generally resulted in lower historical water use estimates (2015-2019) than previous planning cycle.
- **Manufacturing:**
  - Different projection methodology than previous planning cycle.
  - After establishing the baseline, the statewide annual historical water use rate of change from 2010-2019 was used to calculate the 2030 projections.
  - Following 2030, the U.S. Census Bureau's County Business Patterns historical number of establishments growth rate in the manufacturing sector from 2010-2019 was used to project 2040-2080 linearly.
- **Steam-electric Power:**
  - Same methodology as previous planning cycle.
  - Historical baseline water use (2015-2019) volume used in these draft 2026 RWP projections are generally lower than the previous RWP's baseline (2010-2014).

If you have any additional data requests or questions regarding draft projections or supporting data provided, please contact or submit your request to [EDA@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:EDA@twdb.texas.gov) or your TWDB Regional Water Planner.

Thank you,

[Katie S. Dahlberg](#)

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