

# Texas Water Backbone: Fact Sheet

Key facts at a glance for meetings and quick reference

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## Texas Water Backbone

*Drought-proof water infrastructure for Texas's future*

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### The Problem

METRIC	VALUE
Texas population by 2070	55+ million
Water supply gap by 2070	11 million AF/year
Annual economic damage without action	\$153 billion
Marvin Nichols land destruction	66,000 acres
Marvin Nichols first water	2050+ (uncertain)

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### The Solution

SPECIFICATION	VALUE
Pipeline length	420 miles (Gulf Coast to DFW)
Pipeline diameter	96 inches (dual)
Design capacity	500,000 AF/year
ASR buffer storage	360,000 AF
Capital cost	\$8.6–11.15 billion
First water delivery	2032–2035

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## Regions Served

- Houston Metro
  - San Antonio (SAWS)
  - Austin
  - Dallas-Fort Worth
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## Funding

SOURCE	AMOUNT	
Texas Water Fund	\$6–8 billion	
Federal WIFIA loans	Up to \$5 billion	
Private investment	\$2–3 billion	

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## Key Benefits

✓ **Drought-proof** — Ocean water doesn't depend on rainfall ✓ **No land destruction** — Zero acres flooded ✓ **Multi-region** — Serves 4 metros, not just DFW ✓ **Revenue-generating** — Brine, fiber, transmission income ✓ **Faster** — Decades ahead of reservoir alternatives

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## Operating Entity

### Texas Backbone Authority (TBA)

- 9-member board (Governor, Lt. Governor, Speaker appointees)
  - Independent state agency
  - Cost-plus pricing model
  - Municipal wholesale rate: ~\$1,400/AF
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## The Ask

1. Pass enabling legislation (89th Legislature)
2. Authorize Texas Water Fund allocation
3. Incorporate into state water planning

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