



*For Immediate Release*

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**SWATS WATER TREATMENT PLANT AT LAKE GRANBURY RESUMES FULL OPERATION FOLLOWING CHEMICAL SPILL**

July 31, 2011 -- The Lake Granbury Surface Water and Treatment System (SWATS) returned to full operation Saturday evening, July 30. Portions of the plant were temporarily shut down on Friday, July 29 following a chemical spill inside the plant. The SWATS plant provides water to Johnson County Special Utility District, Acton Municipal Utility District, and the Cities of Granbury and Keene from Lake Granbury.

The SWATS plant utilizes both conventional water treatment and an ultra filtration/reverse osmosis process (UF/RO). The chemical spill shut down the UF/RO portion of the plant for approximately 34 hours as HAZMAT crews cleaned up 300 gallons of sulfuric acid that spilled when a storage container being moved ruptured inside the plant. One employee was exposed to the chemical. He was taken by ambulance to Granbury Medical Center for evaluation and was released Friday afternoon.

Water treated at the SWATS plant continues to be safe to drink. With extreme drought conditions, the Brazos River Authority continues to urge all customers to conserve water.

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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 70 counties; extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The Authority built, owns, and operates three reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, and Limestone). In addition to these water supply reservoirs, the Authority contracts 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 Brazos River Authority owns and operates a regional wastewater system for the cities of Temple-Belton. The Authority also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Georgetown, Dime Box, Clute-Richwood and Sugar Land. Through an alliance with the Lower Colorado River Authority, the Brazos River Authority operates wastewater treatment plants at Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System in Round Rock, the city of Hutto and the city of Liberty Hill.

The Authority owns and operates water treatment systems at Lake Granbury (which supplies potable water to wholesale customers in Hood and Johnson Counties), and the City of Taylor. The Authority also operates a potable water treatment plant for the City of Dime Box. A water treatment plant for the City of Leander is operated by the Brazos River Authority through an alliance with the Lower Colorado River Authority.

The Authority also engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River basin. As a member of the Texas Clean River Program, the Authority samples and tests water from 157 locations throughout the basin on either a monthly or quarterly basis.

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